

## **Attending university abroad, felt like I was building castles in the sky... by Dinsuhka Vethavanam**

Attending university abroad, felt like I was building castles in the sky, it was a dream I never thought I would accomplish. However with the initiative from my parents, and some hard work on my part, I managed to make it to Monash University, a very prestigious name where I come from. Getting into Monash was more than I could have asked for.

I enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts with no real ambition or goal of the future in mind; however I am very glad I chose this path. Majoring in Media and Communications is simply awesome and so much fun, however nearing the end of my degree proved to be that much harder. The subjects and assignments were very interesting, and the teaching staff as always proved to be the best, however the pressure of being a final year student did really hit me. Doing a part-time job as well as assignments and handling life here, was a challenge in itself. The burden of having to look for jobs, gaining some hands on experience, and establishing contacts in the industry was a hurdle I thought I would never be able to overcome.

In the process of checking for jobs on a daily basis on the Monash University Careers and Employment job page, I came across an internship the Careers and Employment office was offering. I thought this would be a great opportunity to get some experience and also give to the institution I have gained much from.

Doing this internship and being a part of the Careers Fair was a great experience as a whole, I got the chance of interacting with employers on a personal level, and it was not the contacts, leaflets and show bags I took home that was of use, but the experience, interaction and fun I had from. those two days that I will cherish for a lifetime.

As Benjamin Franklin has stated: 'Tell me I forget, teach me and I remember, involve me and I learn'. This is a statement that rings true for all instances in life. University can be seen as one such instance, where we learn through lectures and tutorials, but the more we involve ourselves in activities and give of ourself, that is when we get something worthwhile in return.

I urge you as a student, go out there, give it your best shot, and have no regrets. There is more in the world to learn than what books can offer. Truly give of yourself, the knowledge and ideas you impart is precious. There are times when things seem too hard to handle, but grab every opportunity with both hands, and revel in its splendour. All you need is a determined mind a dedicated heart, and a confident personality.