



### Farewell Robyn.... Hello Elizabeth

Many of you would have met Robyn Amor at our Office or spoken to her on numerous occasions. She was our Superstar Receptionist, but she also assisted with timesheets, reference checks, updating recruitment contracts and much more. Unfortunately, Robyn left ChemSkill on February 8<sup>th</sup> and we all wish her well for the future. We now welcome Elizabeth Ellis to the ChemSkill family and wish her much success with us. Elizabeth has some big shoes to fill, but she is already doing a fantastic job!



**Robyn and Elizabeth**

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### Upcoming Training Course Dates:

Safety - 15<sup>th</sup> April 2008

GLP - 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2008

Technical Report

Writing - 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April 2008

### Links:

**ChemSkill's current positions:**  
[www.chemskill.com.au](http://www.chemskill.com.au)

**For current information on salaries go to:**  
[www.wagenet.gov.au](http://www.wagenet.gov.au)

**Performance Appraisals**  
[www.performanceappraisals.com.au](http://www.performanceappraisals.com.au)

**On Line Training Courses**  
[www.onlinecourses.net.au](http://www.onlinecourses.net.au)

### ChemSkill Meets the Undergraduates!

Greg Ross and I attended the La Trobe and RMIT Graduate Careers Days in early March. We were hoping to source some great candidates for you all. Unfortunately, the numbers that attended on the day were not huge, but those candidates we spoke to were grateful for the resume and cover letter writing information we gave them.



**Hynda with RMIT students**



**Greg with La Trobe students**

### What are the Undergraduates studying?

Of the 23 RMIT students we spoke to, 4 were studying Applied Chemistry, 7 Chemical Engineering, 5 Food Technology and Nutrition, 1 Nanotechnology, 1 Physics, 2 Lab Tech Pathology (1 Diploma and 1 degree, 1 Mathematics/Statistics, 1 Biotechnology and 1 Production Engineering/ Logistics.

I spoke with a RMIT professor at a later time and found out that in Applied Chemistry, there are 35 3<sup>rd</sup> year and 10-12 4<sup>th</sup> year students finishing at the end of this year. In Environmental Science, there are 25 3<sup>rd</sup> year and 3-4 4<sup>th</sup> year students finishing at the end of 2008.

Of the 28 La Trobe students we spoke to, 10 were studying Biological Science, 4 Biotechnology and Cell Biology, 1 Chemical Sciences, 4 Medicinal

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## ChemSkill Newsletter

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Chemistry, 2 Medical Science, 2 Science, 1 Science/Law, 1 Arts/Science, 1 Viticulture, 1 Biochemistry/Law, 1 Health Science and 1 Space Science.

La Trobe staff later confirmed the following numbers of final year students:- Biological Science 30, Biotechnology and Cell Biology 3, Chemical Sciences 2, Medicinal Chemistry 12, Medical Science 33, Nanotechnology 1 plus Nutrition 14, Health Science and Health Information Management 73, Conservation Biology and Ecology 20, relevant Double degree 8, Science 25, Double Science degrees 9.

The numbers definitely indicate a decline in students studying chemistry and related degrees.

## Starfare Images Online Training Program is now available!

Starfare Images (of which ChemSkill is a trading name), in consultation with industry, has designed a range of courses to enhance the essential skills of employees. A natural progression for the Training Division is 'online training' which now includes the Safety in the Laboratory course.

This course provides general introductory knowledge in respect to specific topics that are important in laboratory environments such as chemical reactions, poisons and carcinogens, toxic substances, spillages, protective equipment, MSDS's, Hazchem codes for hazardous chemicals, fire and other related topics.

The topics are broken down into self assessable sections that need to be completed before you can move to the next section. At the end of the course you will be required to undertake a final assessment task where you will need to obtain a score of 85% or more to complete the course. Once this is done the system will automatically provide you with a certificate of course completion.

Benefits of our online training program include no travel costs for participants, low course fees, flexibility as you can learn on site or at home at the participants own pace and self assessability.

Course prices start at \$150 per person for 1-3 participants and reduce to \$100 per person for 11+ participants.

For more information, go to the website [www.onlinecourses.net.au](http://www.onlinecourses.net.au) or call the office on 9516 0100.

## Performance Appraisals Online.

The Starfare Images Performance Appraisal System is designed to provide a 360° appraisal of staff members because managers, co-workers and clients are all chosen as appraisers. The system is fully on-line, self paced, customisable and flexible. You can browse and choose from our pre-existing range of performance criteria and industry specific criteria or you can add your own. Please call the office to obtain further information on the system or to arrange a demonstration of the system.

Check out the website [www.performanceappraisals.com.au](http://www.performanceappraisals.com.au) to see how this system can help your company.

**Please email me if you would like a particular topic addressed, wish to comment on the newsletter or if you have any questions.**