

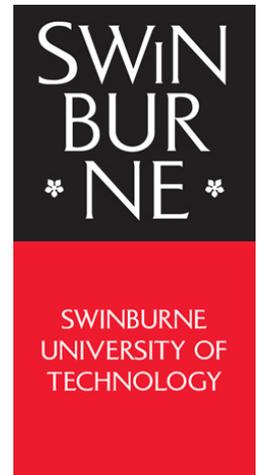
Transcript

Title: Professional Placement at Peter Mac

Author(s): Professional Placements

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Audio/video for this transcript available from: <http://commons.swinburne.edu.au>



MICHELLE: My name is Michelle and I am studying a Bachelor of Health Science (Professional) with a major in psychology and forensic science. I decided to do a professional placement because I think it is really important that a university course is related to real life work experience. I didn't really have any expectations for the placement but I just wanted to come into Peter Mac with an open mind and to just say yes to every opportunity that was thrown my way.

I decided to go with Peter Mac because I really wanted a placement within research and Peter Mac was offering a placement within Psycho-oncology. I'm in the behavioural science team which sits within the department of Cancer Experiences Research. So my tasks involve the administration of studies, ethics and grant applications and also liaising with health professionals. Swinburne provide an academic supervisor and Peter Mac provide an industry supervisor so there's always someone there to get advice from.

PENNY: I actually have a real belief in the professional placement program because I think it's really important for students to get industry based learning experiences. We've had students here at Peter Mac do anything from recruiting patients into research trials to doing systematic literature searches for us, to helping us write ethics applications.

MICHELLE: I was really nervous on my first day of placement but my supervisor was so lovely and she was so welcoming that I instantly felt comfortable. I think students should definitely undertake a professional placement. It gives you an opportunity to enter the professional world, you're able to create networks with people in the workforce and you can apply your university studies in real work experience. And you actually paid for it.

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