

## REVIEWS

## New Career ePORTAL

**Bob Bredemeyer** – MD, JIG-CAL Australia

Students who have clear, realistic career goals are better motivated, happier and achieve better outcomes. Career Advisers and teachers are central to this.

The best career outcomes are achieved through embedding reliable, relevant and proven software in ongoing career education programs which are facilitated by experienced Career Advisers.



The CAREER ePORTAL from JIG-CAL Australia is a new online hub providing access to essential career Web apps and resources.

Students are enabled to develop, explore, plan, generate reports, and see suitable career options and pathways.

Career Advisers login to Adviser Dashboard to facilitate student progress, manage student records, identify those having difficulties, generate Adviser reports, and more. Employing these intelligent Web apps saves time for Career Advisers while increasing efficiency, effectiveness and achieving better career outcomes for students.

Building on over 25 years' experience in Australia developing high quality career resources for students and Career Advisers, the following career Web apps are brought together in the CAREER ePORTAL.

- Getting started introduction to effective career planning, rationale and overview
- Career Voyage enabling Career Advisers to facilitate
  - development of clear and relevant student profiles
  - generation of suitable & realistic Job Suggestions ranked in order of suitability
  - guided exploration of suitable options and Pros&Cons of job options
  - investigation of associated occupational information
  - development of action plans which meet individual circumstances
- Career Portfolio – save all career reports and documents in one secure place
- Share Portfolio – options to allow (or block) family members or prospective employers to VIEW Portfolio documents
- Work Values – clarify and see how personal values fit with those of future employers
- Career messaging – enabling students to communicate with Career Advisers

- Résumé Start-Up – Includes rationale for starting a résumé; intuitive easy template; and straight forward example illustrating important points
- Course Finder – search for courses aligned with career goals
- Resources & Links – to help quickly find helpful career resources

### Advantages of a Portal

- All essential career Web apps are accessed via a single secure login
- As soon as students login they see their personal Dashboards, with the Web apps clearly and intuitively laid out
- Career Advisers access the same Web apps, but with many more controls, including student records management and software configuration
- Choices are readily available. Career Advisers can direct students to particular Web apps, sequences, as well as those Web apps to focus on and those to skip
- When fastest students finish working on one Web app they can move on to another app while other students catch up
- Organisations and Career Advisers can choose which Web apps they want
- Further Web apps can, and will be added progressively to the CAREER ePORTAL.



### Career information isn't enough

We recognise that it's tough facilitating suitable and realistic career pathways for young people. Just as architects, zoologists and all other professionals need reliable resources, so it is for Career Advisers/Teachers also.

Good career planning needs to take into account:

- o personal factors (such as interests, abilities, achievements, talents, unrealised potential, values, family circumstances)
- o the ever changing world of work, education and training
- o a credible decision-making model
- o realistic and suitable action plans.

The internet is crowded with information! For young people who are confused about their career plans, more information typically means more confusion.

Young people need experienced Career Advisers working with proven career systems to learn about themselves and develop realistic, suitable options and pathways. The CAREER ePORTAL enables this.

## Fast changing world of work



Predicting the future doesn't have a good track record. Many surprises occur, and will continue to do so. Although far from perfect, present day trends are the best we've got, so we all need to keep up to date and in touch with trends and changes.

Aiming for narrowly defined jobs is likely to be problematic. On the other hand, personal flexibility, openness to emerging trends, and willingness to be challenged will be increasingly important.

So also are clear understandings of personal attributes, strengths, weaknesses, aspirations, motivations, values, etc, as they relate to post-school options.

The CAREER ePORTAL provides such a platform for Career Advisers to facilitate students' career development and realistic decision making.

## Meaningful Work

What happens when people start each day facing work they believe is meaningless, and in some cases actually makes the world a worse place?

They get frustrated, demoralised, angry, and even depressed. And then there's the issue of productivity!

In his new book "Bullshit Jobs", David Graeber (anthropologist at the London School of Economics) notes that a sense of uselessness "... gnaws at everything that makes people human."

Young people have strong needs to feel involved, and to engage with meaningful work.



The CAREER ePORTAL, supported by experienced Career Advisers, promotes suitable career pathways.

## What's in a DISLIKE?

When career seekers are asked about their LIKES and DISLIKES, a few give mostly DISLIKES.

Of course all of us have a few dislikes, but planning a career on an overwhelming number of DISLIKES is not ideal.

A DISLIKE profile can arise out a number of causes. It may be that the student has some bad stuff going on; suffers from depression or low self-esteem; or can't see the point of engaging with career education.

Computer software can highlight such problems. In Career Voyage for example, when a DISLIKE response style is detected algorithms send a message to the Adviser (only) with some suggestions about how to assist the student. But software isn't good at engaging with the student to discuss, explore the cause(s), reflect and elicit meaningful responses to the issue.

That's something experienced Career Advisers are good at. They are also good at listening, introducing programs, facilitating, supporting, and working through possible options and outcomes.

Some things are best done by reliable software: and some are best done by experienced Career Advisers. The very best is a wise combination of the two.



## Growing With the Times

The CAREER ePORTAL is not static. It will continue to grow, update, and add new reliable Web apps to meet the challenges of transitions and a changing world. Web apps soon to be added will include Skills Audit, Action Planning, Learning Strategies.

Jiig-CAL Australia has had a long connection with CEAV and is keen to continue collaborating with members to achieve the best career outcomes for you and your students.

We welcome your feedback, queries & requests. **E**



### Contact:

<https://jiig-cal.com.au>

[info@jiig-cal.com.au](mailto:info@jiig-cal.com.au)

[bob@jiig-cal.com.au](mailto:bob@jiig-cal.com.au)