



Thursday, 03 May 2007

Media Statement

Students on financial planning learning curve

IT may be a long way from graduate to financial planner but a group of 37 Gold Coast university students took the recently first step of that journey.

At recent careers days at the Gold Coast's Bond and Griffith University eager students flooded signed up for a Professional Investment Service Pathways for a Career in Financial Planning course.

The two-day course gives graduates and other entrants an introduction to PIS and financial planning as a career.

The course covers topics such as Key Fundamentals of Financial Planning, Legal Responsibilities to Portfolio Construction and Asset Allocation.

PIS chief executive Robbie Bennetts said the burgeoning interest in financial planning cam as no surprise to those within the industry.

"Traditionally financial planning has been seen as the poor cousin of accounting. However, students now realize that financial planning offers a satisfying and rewarding career path," he said.

"And with PIS now Australia's largest financial planning group they can see a viable career path after they graduate.

"That's why we are being swamped with keen young people looking to gain a start in our industry."

One young student looking to make the leap is Sam Sheffield.

The 20-year-old is completing a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in finance and e-commerce, and sees financial planning as the way of the future.

"I'm really interested in the area," he said.

"I'm hoping to do some para-planning and move into financial planning. I'm very interested in managing people's money."



Professional Investment Services

ABN 11 074 606 558 | Australian Financial Services Licence Number 234951

For former intensive care nurse Danielle Wang the move into financial planning came as a result of family experience.

“I’ve always had a consciousness of the importance of financial planning,” she said.

Mr Bennetts said ongoing education played an important role in any financial planning group.

“Financial planning is all about offering the very best to your client, and the only way to do that is to remain informed.”

Mr Bennetts estimates that PIS will spend of \$420K on training this financial year. This includes staff training, professional development and courses for new and existing advisers.

