



International Education News

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Title: AUSTRALIA: Foreign Students Flock to Australia

Link: http://chronicle.com/news/index.php?id=5226&utm_source=pm&utm_medium=en

Summary: Vocational education and training courses appear to be the hot new growth area for Australia's international-education market, with a 44-percent increase in foreign enrollments over the previous year, according to July 2008 statistics released by the government this month and reported in *The Australian* newspaper on Wednesday.

Universities still attract most of the foreign students who come to Australia to study. But today nearly one-third of international students — or 142,000 — are enrolled in vocational education, up from 25 percent in 2007, noted Australian Education International, an office of the government's Education Department.

Date: September 26, 2008

Source: The Chronicle of Higher Education

Title: NIGERIA: Panic grips students in illegal universities

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20080925160325551&mode=print>

Summary: The National Universities Commission of Nigeria recently published a list of 31 'illegal' universities - including offshore campuses of foreign universities - that it has not approved, prompting panic in the affected institutions. Students face a bleak future if their qualifications are not recognised, teachers are no longer sure of their jobs while governing councils fear being prosecuted and have been lobbying key people in the legislative and executive arms of Nigeria's 36 states to have their universities recognised and accredited.

Date: September 28, 2008

Source: University World News

Title: **SENEGAL: Anti-brain drain computing grid installed**

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20080925155107295&mode=print>

Summary: Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD) in Dakar is the first university in sub-Saharan Africa to benefit from installation of a computing grid under the Reversing Brain Drain into Brain Gain for Africa project jointly run by Unesco, Hewlett-Packard and the CNRS, France's national scientific research centre. The new infrastructure will make it easier for researchers at the university to collaborate with colleagues abroad, and give them access to considerable information technology resources (see **University World News**, 22 June 2008).

Grid computing is a hardware and software infrastructure that clusters and integrates computer networks, databases and scientific instruments from multiple sources to form a virtual environment in which users can work collaboratively. The project will eventually provide the technology to five universities in five African countries - Algeria, Ghana, Nigeria and Zambia as well as Senegal.

Date: September 28, 2008 **Source:** University World News

Title: **Province's Population Highest Ever at 1.2 Million Manitobans**

Link: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2008/09/2008-09-29-101800-4494.html>

Summary: Manitoba's population has reached a historic high above 1.2 million people, Competitiveness, Training and Trade Minister Andrew Swan announced today.

Statistics Canada reports that as of July 1, 2008, Manitoba's population had reached 1,208,000, an increase of nearly 14,500 people since July 2007. Along with 1983, these are the largest population gains in the last 36 years.

The minister said the province's latest annual growth of 1.2 per cent exceeded the national gain and was the fourth-highest rate among the provinces.

Date: September 29, 2008 **Source:** Government of Manitoba News Release

Title: **Video Conferencing Offers Opportunity To Bring The World to Rural, Northern Classrooms**

Link: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2008/09/2008-09-30-111100-4535.html>

Summary: Rural and northern students will have the opportunity to interact with experts and other students from around the world with new investments in video conferencing for classrooms, Education, Citizenship and Youth Minister Peter Bjornson announced today.

Using video conferencing links, students have talked to astronauts as their shuttles drift through space and others have ventured on virtual tours of centres of world-class centres of knowledge such as the Smithsonian Institute.

Date: September 30, 2008 **Source:** Government of Manitoba News Release

Title: **1.2 million strong**

Link: <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/editorial/story/4232621p-4874130c.html>

Summary: 1,212,000 people next month. It's a stunning feat in a province that grew by the same number of people -- 50,000 -- in the six years to December 2007, as it did in the previous 13 years.

That accomplishment is compounded by the fact that Manitoba has become more attractive generally, and the province is no longer losing badly at the interprovincial migration game. That has happened before, specifically in the early 1980s when an economic malaise across the country resulted in a return to the roots. The big difference is that immigration to this province, at 10,000 a year, has offset the birth rate that has dropped steeply since the early 1990s.

Date: September 30, 2008 **Source:** Winnipeg Free Press

Title: **UK: Border-Crossing Universities**

Link: <http://www.insidehighered.com/layout/set/print/news/2008/10/01/intl>

Summary: When officials in Britain discuss the arrival of newcomers from Southeast Asia to the local academic environment, any hesitation in their conversation is not about visiting lecturers or foreign students from the region. It's about the surprising identity of the latest international university now operating in their midst.

Limkokwing, now in its first year of operation, is putting the finishing touches on a corporate plan to further ramp up its presence in Britain, a country that has long attracted students from its former colonies; until now, however, those students have typically come to study at the institutions of the onetime colonial overlord.

Date: October 1, 2008 **Source:** Inside Higher Education

Title: **JAPAN: Japanese Study-Abroad Broker Files for Bankruptcy**

Link: http://chronicle.com/news/index.php?id=5256&utm_source=pm&utm_medium=en

Summary: *Tokyo* — One of Japan's largest foreign-study brokerages has collapsed under debts of more than \$12-million, leaving an estimated 1,000 students out of pocket for the money, reports the newspaper *Yomiuri Shimbun*.

The company, which sent 7,000 to 8,000 students abroad annually, was hit by problems this year after reportedly failing to pay its foreign business partners, who then refused to accept students. Questions are already being asked about why Gateway21 continued to accept money from clients even after its troubles became clear.

Date: October 1, 2008 **Source:** The Chronicle of Higher Education

Title: **AUSTRALIA: Taskforce to study overseas students in Australia**

Link: <http://www.higher-edge.com/docs/oov-V07-No.32.pdf>

Summary: The government of Victoria, Australia is setting up a taskforce to examine problems that affect the international education industry, the state's biggest service exporter. Of late, a lot of media attention has been focused on unscrupulous education institutes, corrupt landlords and lack of affordable and safe housing for foreign students in Australia.

Date: October 1, 2008 **Source:** Overseas Overwhelmed via The Age (http://www.theage.com.au/not_found.html)

Title: **THAILAND: Government to inspect Thai universities**

Link: <http://www.higher-edge.com/docs/oov-V07-No.32.pdf>

Summary: Thailand's universities are gearing up for quality assessments to be conducted by the government starting 2010. The parent universities and affiliated learning centres which do not meet standards will not be accredited. "The 2010 assessment will be tough. If any centre fails the assessment, the main campus will not be accredited. The aim is not to pressure them to close the centres, but to stress quality," said Somwung Pitayanuwat, director, Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (Onesqa).

Date: October 1, 2008 **Source:** Overseas Overwhelmed via Bangkok Post (http://www.bangkokpost.com/150908_News/15Sep2008_news13.php)

Title: 🇨🇦 **Student visa fraud rampant**

Link: <http://www.canada.com/components/print.aspx?id=4f4f054a-83f0-4bb2-a6b9-84608dc66>

Summary: Canada places so few restrictions on foreign students and the schools that attract them that it has left the student-visa system open to widespread abuse and fraud, according to an internal government review obtained by The Vancouver Sun.

Canada's rules are so lax, the review notes, that foreign students can't be deported even if they never show up for class.

The review said that since 2002, Canada has adopted an increasingly "facilitative" approach to foreign students. This means students are no longer required to attend class, making it easier to extend the length of study permits and allowing students to work for up to two years after they complete their studies.

Date: October 2, 2008

Source: Vancouver Sun

Title: 🇨🇦 **Understanding the academic trajectories of ESL students**

Link: <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Reports/LessonsInLearning/LinL20081002ESLStudents.htm>

Summary: Canada depends on a steady flow of immigrants to maintain a viable workforce within an aging population. Without immigration, Canada's dependency ratio—the number of employed versus non-employed individuals - would grow dangerously unbalanced.

Given the role of school as a major mediator of life opportunities and Canada's particular commitment to equality and multiculturalism, it is important to ensure that these English-as-a-second-language (ESL) students have the necessary support to succeed in Canadian schools. However, until recently, relatively little was known about the academic trajectories of these students. New research has revealed wide variations in outcomes among sub-groups of ESL students.

Date: October 2, 2008

Source: Canadian Council on Learning