




International Education News

This service is provided by the International Education Branch of the Government of Manitoba.
 To be added to or removed from the distribution list, please e-mail us at education-excellence@gov.mb.ca.

 = Manitoba Articles  = Canadian Articles

In this issue...

 Canada's struggle to attract foreign students becomes Charest campaign focus	1
FINLAND: Upheaval reshapes university sector	2
GHANA: Government to set up S & T development fund	2
IRELAND: Higher education mobility to be encouraged	2
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Bold plan to duplicate Bologna.....	2
US: Record numbers of foreign students	3
VIETNAM: First university rankings due next year	3
MALAYSIA: Malaysia Entices Its Academics Who Were Laid Off Abroad to Come Home	3
 Considering New Program.....	3
 Divisions joining forces for global student search.....	4
AFRICA: African Universities Face a Looming Shortage of Ph.D.'s.....	4
BANGLADESH: Bangladesh Will Allow Foreign Universities to Set Up Shop.....	4
 Downtown campuses keep growing	4
US: Gains in International Students Help Berkeley Fill Budget Gap	5
IRELAND: Irish University Founder Calls for National Student-Attracting Group	5
UAE: Scholars Weigh Merits of Western-Style Universities in Persian Gulf	5
 Sustainable Development Conference to be Held in Winnipeg	5
 Minister Kenney announces immigration levels for 2009; Issues instructions on processing federal skilled workers	6

Title:  Canada's struggle to attract foreign students becomes Charest campaign focus

Link: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5hoOnfVSHDpLkAkfmrk5SWogXHJg>

Summary: Canada's struggle to attract foreign students became a focus of Jean Charest's election campaign Friday as the Liberal premier of Quebec promised new measures to attract and keep the world's best and brightest.

The premier said attracting smart students will be critical to success in the 21st century economy and he lamented that countries like Australia and the United Kingdom have outflanked Canada.

Charest promised a major recruitment campaign to attract more young talent from outside the province if his Liberal government is re-elected on Dec. 8.

Date: November 21, 2008

Source: Canadian Press

Title:	FINLAND: Upheaval reshapes university sector		
Link:	http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20081120154734901&mode=print		
Summary:	<p>In just over 12 months, the form, funding and governance of Finland's higher education sector will undergo a radical makeover. Although final details are yet to be released, from 1 January 2010 three major changes will affect universities and involve funding, governance and the ownership and usage of buildings.</p> <p>As with university reform elsewhere in the world, Finland has reacted to economic and technological globalisation by revolutionising universities' external and internal structures. The intention is to remove inhibitions to Finnish universities' capacity to be beneficiaries of international research funding and to increase their capacity for research commercialisation.</p>		
Date:	November 23, 2008	Source:	University World News

Title:	GHANA: Government to set up S & T development fund		
Link:	http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20081120151727894&mode=print		
Summary:	<p>The next government of the National Democratic Congress will set up a Science and Technology Development Fund to promote the study of science towards national development, reports Graphic Online. The fund will finance research in universities, other research institutions and graduate projects.</p> <p>Science and technology would also be the focal point in all fields of national endeavour, John Dramani Mahama, the Congress' vice-presidential candidate, said at an interaction with scientists, researchers and industrialists in which he spelt out the party's science agenda.</p>		
Date:	November 23, 2008	Source:	Graphic Online (http://www.graphicghana.com/default.asp?sourceid=&smenu=88&twindow=Default&mad=No&sdetail=6205&wpage=&skeyword=&sidate=&ccat=&ccatm=&restate=&restatus=&reoption=&retype=&repmin=&repmax=&rebed=&rebath=&subname=&pform=&sc=2364&hn=graphicghana&he=.com) via University World News

Title:	IRELAND: Higher education mobility to be encouraged		
Link:	http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20081120151854483&mode=print		
Summary:	<p>Measures to encourage more students to do part of their study abroad are to be considered by the Higher Education Authority, a conference has been told, reports the Irish Times. Michael Kelly, chairman of the policy and funding body, said he would like to see more students avail of opportunities provided by schemes such as Erasmus.</p> <p>Some 3,000 students go to Ireland to study every year while about 1,800 Irish students go abroad.</p>		
Date:	November 23, 2008	Source:	The Irish Times (http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2008/1120/1227026442384.html) via University World News

Title:	SOUTHEAST ASIA: Bold plan to duplicate Bologna		
Link:	http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20081120154941889&mode=print		
Summary:	<p>Achieving for Southeast Asia what the Europeans have accomplished with the Bologna process - aligning the Asian region's 6,500 higher education institutions and 12 million students in 11 vastly different countries, and making their systems compatible within a mere seven years - is ambitious to say the least. But a recent high-powered conference in Bangkok began the first steps to do just that.</p> <p>Attaining compatibility between the region's education systems is a key element in the even more ambitious plans by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations for an economic union by 2015. As with the Bologna process, the Bangkok conference's aim in part was to improve mobility for academics and students between universities and to bring their courses and qualifications more into line.</p>		
Date:	November 23, 2008	Source:	University World News

Title: **US: Record numbers of foreign students**

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20081120154841183&mode=print>

Summary: More than 620,000 international students are now enrolled in American colleges and universities – a 7% increase on the number for the 2006-07 academic year and the highest total ever recorded. The latest rise builds on a 3% blip the previous year and exceeds the top enrolment figure of 586,300 set six years ago, according to the latest *Open Doors* report. The report reveals an even bigger increase in first-time students whose enrolments jumped by 10% after recording the same rise the previous year and an 8% increase the year before that - a healthy sign for US institutions as they confront their own financial crises.

In sharp contrast to the tight restrictions placed on foreign enrolments after the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001, the US administration has been making strong efforts to help students in other countries gain access to its universities.

Date: November 23, 2008 **Source:** University World News

Title: **VIETNAM: First university rankings due next year**

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20081120152027364&mode=print>

Summary: For the first time in Vietnam, an education watchdog under the Vietnam National University-Hanoi will rank local universities, a representative told a conference in Hanoi, reports Thanh Nien. Data is being collected and the rankings are expected to be announced early next year.

Local universities will be categorised into three groups: those offering doctoral degrees, those offering master's degrees, and those offering bachelor's degrees, said Nguyen Phuong Nga, director of CEQARD. The schools will then be ranked within their categories according to their quality of education and research, she said, as well as generally.

Date: November 23, 2008 **Source:** Thanh Nien News (<http://www.thanhniennews.com/education/?catid=4&newsid=43790>) via University World News


Title: **MALAYSIA: Malaysia Entices Its Academics Who Were Laid Off Abroad to Come Home**

Link: http://chronicle.com/news/index.php?id=5551&utm_source=pm&utm_medium=en

Summary: Malaysia, which suffers from a vast brain drain, has started yet another effort to lure academics home. This time the Ministry of Higher Education has told administrators to take advantage of the global economic crisis and recruit Malaysian professors who have been laid off at foreign universities.

Under the plan, Malaysian universities are to be given "total freedom" to hire out-of-work academics, the higher-education minister said in a speech on Saturday. The proposal is likely to mean that the government will not impose ethnic quotas on professors who return from abroad.

Date: November 24, 2008 **Source:** The Star (<http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2008/11/23/nation/2625336&sec=nation>) via The Chronicle of Higher Education

Title:  **Considering New Program**

Link: Pembina Valley Online

Summary: Trustees in the Border Land School Division think there may be some merit in attracting foreign students to the division.

The board has instructed administration to come up with a proposal on how such a program would work in Border Land.

Mendel hopes to submit his report to trustees by the end of the year, or early next year.

Date: November 24, 2008 **Source:** http://www.pembinavalleyonline.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=9

Title: 🗺️ **Divisions joining forces for global student search**

Link: No link available

Summary: A fledgling international student recruitment program aimed at introducing a distinct foreign flavour into several Westman high schools could be up and running late next year. A consortium of five area school divisions — Beautiful Plains, Fort La Bosse, Rolling River, Southwest Horizon and Turtle Mountain — have banded together to create an initiative called “Study Manitoba School Divisions.” It’s a project that will allow the region’s communities to pool their resources and knowledge in an effort to encourage international high school students to come and study in rural Manitoba, explains Ian Berith Scott, the program’s director.

Date: November 24, 2008 **Source:** Brandon Sun

Title: **AFRICA: African Universities Face a Looming Shortage of Ph.D.’s**

Link: <http://chronicle.com/cgi-bin/printable.cgi?article=chronicle.com/daily/2008/11/771>

Summary: African universities are rapidly losing their faculty members to retirement and industry, and their capacity to educate new Ph.D. holders is eroding, raising deep concerns about the continent’s ability to produce new generations of academics, educators said at a conference on Monday.

The recruitment and retention of new faculty members has emerged as a top priority for institutions across the continent, as they have scrambled to hire enough faculty members to keep pace with recent rapid growth in enrollment. Many African institutions are staffed disproportionately by academics in their 50s and nearing retirement, on the one hand, and by younger academics who often lack advanced degrees, on the other, according to participants at the University Leaders’ Forum conference, which continues through today in Accra, Ghana.

Date: November 25, 2008 **Source:** The Chronicle of Higher Education

Title: **BANGLADESH: Bangladesh Will Allow Foreign Universities to Set Up Shop**

Link: http://chronicle.com/news/index.php?id=5560&utm_source=pm&utm_medium=en

Summary: Despite opposition from Bangladesh’s university regulator, the country’s caretaker government passed a law on Monday that allows private individuals and institutions to establish campuses in the name of foreign universities, but only with prior permission from the government.

In a bid to streamline the mushrooming growth of private universities’ off-campus branches, the new law says the universities can run campuses only in places that the government has certified. The law also says that, with government approval, anyone with 20 years of experience in teaching, academic research, or university administration, and who has a “first class” or equivalent result in their undergraduate or graduate degree programs, can be eligible to be appointed vice chancellor of a private university.

Date: November 25, 2008 **Source:** The Daily Star (http://www.thedailystar.net/pf_story.php?nid=64870) via The Chronicle of Higher Education

Title: 🗺️ **Downtown campuses keep growing**

Link: http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/business/breakingnews/Downtown_campuses_keep_growing.html

Summary: Wheeling and dealing Tuesday, Jeff Zabudsky and Lloyd Axworthy made their main downtown campuses bigger.

And in the process, they’re continuing the rejuvenation of downtown, said the two post-secondary presidents.

Zabudsky’s Red River College will take over the 21 classrooms in the Massey Building at 294 William Avenue in September.

Meanwhile, U of W president Axworthy will move his continuing education program out of the Exchange District, and spread the program into one or more properties being developed just east of the Portage Avenue campus.

Date: November 25, 2008 **Source:** Winnipeg Free Press

Title: **US: Gains in International Students Help Berkeley Fill Budget Gap**

Link: <http://chronicle.com/cgi-bin/printable.cgi?article=chronicle.com/daily/2008/11/775>

Summary: The University of California at Berkeley tripled the number of international students it admitted in this year's freshman class and plans to enroll even more students from outside the state next year, in part to pump up tuition revenue during a difficult financial period for the state's universities.

But with the state facing a budget deficit estimated at \$11-billion and appropriations for universities shrinking, officials also acknowledged a financial motive. They stressed, however, that Berkeley was increasing enrollment over all so that accepting more out-of-state students would not hurt access for Californians.

Date: November 26, 2008 **Source:** The Chronicle of Higher Education

Title: **IRELAND: Irish University Founder Calls for National Student-Attracting Group**

Link: <http://www.higher-edge.com/inst/oov-V07-No.40.php>

Summary: Ireland needs a dedicated national body in order to live up to its potential as a potential study destination, the founding president of the University of Limerick said earlier this month.

The lack of a co-ordinated approach for attracting students has ensured that Ireland distantly trails its only European rival, the U.K., as a magnet for attracting students interested studying in an English-speaking country, Edward Walsh wrote in a newspaper opinion piece.

Date: November 26, 2008 **Source:** Independent (<http://www.independent.ie/opinion/analysis/overseas-students-put-off-by-our-tarnished-j>) via Overseas Overwhelmed

Title: **UAE: Scholars Weigh Merits of Western-Style Universities in Persian Gulf**

Link: <http://chronicle.com/cgi-bin/printable.cgi?article=chronicle.com/daily/2008/11/776>

Summary: Universities in the Persian Gulf should offer more Arabic-language instruction and require more courses in the region's history and culture, a scholar from the United Arab Emirates said here Tuesday during a panel discussion at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association.

Dozens of universities have opened in the region during the last decade. Many of the new institutions have partnerships with universities in the West.

Date: November 26, 2008 **Source:** The Chronicle of Higher Education


Title: **🇨🇦 Sustainable Development Conference to be Held in Winnipeg**

Link: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2008/11/2008-11-27-060000-4817.html>

Summary: An education for sustainable development (ESD) conference featuring international experts and industry-leading speakers will be held in Winnipeg today and tomorrow, Education, Citizenship and Youth Minister Peter Bjornson announced today.

Called Choose the Future, the conference is designed for teachers, business leaders, non-government organizations and government representatives wanting to become part of a vast network of groups working together for a healthy, sustainable future.

Date: November 27, 2008 **Source:** Government of Manitoba News Release

Title:  **Minister Kenney announces immigration levels for 2009; Issues instructions on processing federal skilled workers**

Link: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/media/releases/2008/2008-11-28.asp>

Summary: Canada will stay the course on immigration in 2009, welcoming between 240,000 and 265,000 new permanent residents, Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, announced today.

The 2009 plan includes up to 156,600 immigrants in the economic category; 71,000 in the family category; and 37,400 in the humanitarian category.

Date: November 28, 2008

Source: Government of Canada News Release