

International Education News

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Title: GLOBAL: Life of Brain: something Pythonesque in the growth of 'legitimate' degree mills

Link: <http://www.smh.com.au/opinion/life-of-brain-something-pythonesque-in-the-growth-of-x2018legitimatex2019-degree-mills-20090731-e4gk.html>

Summary: In Monty Python's *Life of Brian* confusion and competition reign between the People's Front of Judea and the Judean People's Front, not to mention the Judean Popular People's Front and the Popular Front of Judea. Figuring out the legitimacy of each group and how they differ is nearly impossible.

So it is in higher education: trying to work out which institutions are legitimate. The University of Hawaii is a major university, now famous as where Barack Obama's parents met. Honolulu University, on the other hand, is a "degree mill" that exists primarily in cyberspace and is not recognized as a credible place of learning.

Date: Aug 1, 2009

Source: The Sydney Morning Herald

Title: GLOBAL: Governments inflate worth of foreign students

Link: http://www.universityworldnews.com/publication/archives.php?mode=archive&p_id=UWorld&issueno=87&format=html

Summary: Claims that foreign students generate billions of dollars in export income for the western countries that admit them in large numbers, such as the US, Australia and the UK, may be wildly inflated, according to an exclusive report to be published on the *University World News* website on Wednesday. Readers will find a detailed analysis showing why the figures quoted by governments of the education export income they derive from foreign students are wrong.

Date: Aug 2, 2009

Source: University World News

Title: AUSTRALIA: Government acts to prevent collapse

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090731104703774>

Summary: The federal and state governments sent a team of officials to India last month to try to allay government and media alarm at the attacks on students. Immigration Minister Senator Chris Evans is currently in India also trying to repair Australia's battered image.

Changes to Australia's skilled migration programme which has cut out hairdressing and cooking as skills in demand seems certain to result in a decline in enrolments once students in India and China realise they will not be able to gain residency visas.

Date: Aug 2, 2009

Source: University World News

Title: ALGERIA: Variable progress in Bologna's fifth year

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090731104244279>

Summary: As 135,000 new students enrol for university studies, Algeria is about to begin its fifth academic year since it started introducing the Bologna higher education structure - with varying rates of progress in different institutions, reported *La Tribune* of Algiers.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research has issued new guidance for the 135,000 freshers and introduced a pre-registration 'confirmation period'. This year all students have been allocated an email account, and enrolment procedures are being carried out electronically.

Date: Aug 2, 2009

Source: University World News

Title: GERMANY: Success for export of study programmes

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090731103938540>

Summary: The German Academic Exchange Service can boast a record number of grant-holders for 2008. German exports of study programmes appear to be expanding, too.

What contributed to the peak in grants was an increase of the organisation's budget by EUR23 million. Money was also allocated via 26 newly introduced programmes.

The export of study programmes is showing more and more success. Courses modelled along the lines of German programmes are being offered abroad, and in some cases, entire new higher education institutions are being founded.

Date: Aug 2, 2009

Source: University World News

Title: GLOBAL: New model for UK-US university collaboration

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090731102252791>

Summary: University leaders in the United Kingdom and United States have argued for a new model for UK-US collaboration to help the two countries retain their primacy in higher education in an increasingly competitive world.

Their report *Higher Education and Collaboration in Global Context: Building a global civil society* - commissioned by British Prime Minister Gordon Brown and published last week - suggests developing multilateral partnerships and bringing longstanding trans-Atlantic partnerships between the countries to bear in other nations.

Specifically, the report proposes the creation of an 'Atlantic Trust' - "to support students, research and global service".

Date: Aug 2, 2009

Source: University World News

Title: IRELAND: Brain drain fear as more Irish study abroad

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090731101557796>

Summary: A new brain drain could be looming for Ireland after new figures showed a sharp rise in the number of students going to college abroad, write Katherine Donnelly and Paddy Clancy for *The Independent*. A startling jump in the numbers of Irish undergraduates and postgraduates studying elsewhere in Europe was revealed in a new EU education report.

The extent of the economic downturn in Ireland makes it difficult for graduates to return to a job at home. The proportion of Irish students abroad almost doubled to 13.8% between 2002 and 2006 - way above the EU average of 2.6%.

Date: Aug 2, 2009

Source: The Independent (<http://www.independent.ie/national-news/brain-drain-concern-as-more-irish-studying--overseas-1842100.html>) via University World News

Title: INDIA: Growing numbers studying abroad

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090731094523540>

Summary: More students than ever before are leaving India to pursue higher education abroad, reports Rema Nagarajan for *The Times of India*. The number of these mobile students increased two-and-a-half times between 1975 and 2007 to reach 2.8 million. Two-thirds of the students make a beeline for six countries - the US, UK, France, Australia, Germany and Japan in that order.

The number of female mobile students is increasing, raising their share of the total from 46% to 49%, according to UNESCO's recent report, *Global Education Digest 2009*.

Date: Aug 2, 2009

Source: The Times of India (<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/India-No-2-in-sending-students-abroad/articleshow/4814042.cms>) via University World News

Title: ETHIOPIA: 10 new universities to be built soon

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090731093600927>

Summary: Ethiopia's Ministry of Education has announced that construction of 10 new universities will begin in different parts of the country in the near future, reports *ENA*.

External and public relations officer with the Ministry, Deresse Getissa, told *ENA* last week the new universities would be constructed in Oromia, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Tigray and South Ethiopia Peoples' states.

Full report on the *Nazret* site.

Date: Aug 2, 2009

Source: Nazret (http://nazret.com/blog/index.php?title=ethiopia_to_open_10_new_universities&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1) via University World News

Title: JAPAN-BRAZIL: Joint distance teacher training course

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090731091125642>

Summary: A long-distance teacher training programme for Brazilian residents in Japan has been launched, reports *The Mainichi Daily*. Tokai University and Brazil's Federal University of Mato Grosso jointly initiated the course to promote the acquisition of teaching certificates among teachers at the more than 80 Brazilian schools in Japan.

During the correspondence course, students will attend six seminars to be held annually in six cities, including the Shizuoka Prefecture city of Hamamatsu and the Gunma Prefecture city of Ota - both of which have a large Brazilian population due to the cities' manufacturing industry.

Full report on *The Mainichi Daily* site.

Date: Aug 2, 2009

Source: The Mainichi Daily (<http://mdn.mainichi.jp/mdnnews/news/20090727p2a00m0na024000c.html>) via University World News

Title: AUSTRALIA: Student exodus could cost NSW \$300 million

Link: <http://www.smh.com.au/national/student-exodus-could-cost-nsw-300-million-20090801-e53l.html>

Summary: The NSW economy is facing a potential loss of about \$300 million in revenue from Indian students, the NSW Opposition has warned.

Australia's "Group of Eight" coalition of universities has also voiced concerns about a projected fall in enrolments next year, especially from India.

Official figures have not yet revealed a decline in the number of Indian students arriving in Australia. However, the reports from education agents signal a fall in future enrolments.

Date: Aug 2, 2009

Source: The Sydney Morning Herald

Title: INDIA: "Varsities need to be given more freedom"

Link: <http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/02/stories/2009080260501000.htm>

Summary: Minister for Human Resource Development, Kapil Sibal, emphasised the fact that the universities should be free from "government control and political interference" and be run by "committed and passionate educationists rather than those who are interested in making money."

Announcing that 14 innovation universities would come up in the next five years with private partnership to provide more centres of excellence, Mr. Sibal added that there would also be huge surge in the number of doctoral and fellowship programmes in the country.

Date: Aug 2, 2009

Source: The Hindu

Title: AUSTRALIA: Scandals Lead to Promises of Reform in Australian International Education

Link: http://chronicle.com/article/Australia-Promises-Changes/47926/?sid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en

Summary: IDP Education, which recruits one of every five international students who studies in Australia, told Australian universities last month that visits by prospective students to its 14 offices in India have fallen 80 percent compared with last year.

The two problems—attacks on Indian students and trouble within the vocational-education sector—are particularly damaging because they affect the source of much of the higher-education system's recent growth.

Even before the television investigation aired, the national government had begun to reform its immigration policy, after the labour market was flooded with an oversupply of certain workers who had been given priority.

Date: Aug 3, 2009

Source: The Chronicle of Higher Education

Title:  Iranian grad students increasingly eyeing Canada for study

Link: <http://oncampus.macleans.ca/education/2009/08/03/iranian-grad-students-increasingly-eyeing-canada-as-a-place-to-study/>

Summary: Typically, the largest group of international students attending the University of Alberta comes from China, followed by the United States and France. But this year, Iran led the way with 618 master's and PhD applicants, a jump of 60 per cent over 2008. It's a trend that has been noticed at other schools across the country.

The number of graduate students from Iran tripled between 2002 and 2006, according to figures from the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. Iran ranked sixth among countries sending graduate students to Canada in 2006, the association said.

Date: Aug 3, 2009

Source: Macleans On Campus

Title: USA: US colleges forecast modest increases in international student enrolment

Link: <http://www.academicagroup.ca/node/8153>

Summary: A number of American colleges are projecting stable or even increased foreign student enrolment this fall, despite the global recession. Some embassies abroad suggest student-visa figures will exceed last year's numbers.

There are troubling signs, however, from India, which is America's top source for international students. The US Embassy in New Delhi reports a 31% drop in the number of student visas issued, which is being attributed to the weak job market in the US. There is concern international enrolment in the US will drop off in future years due to budget constraints.

Date: Aug 4, 2009

Source: The Chronicle of Higher Education (http://chronicle.com/article/Foreign-Student-Enrollments/47514/?utm_source=at&utm_medium=en) via Academica Group

Title: SAUDI ARABIA: Blacklist 'bogus universities,' says Shoura Council member

Link: <http://www.saudigazette.com.sa/index.cfm?method=home.regcon&contentID=2009073045217>

Summary: A member of the Shoura Council has proposed drawing up a blacklist of "bogus universities" to help people seeking genuine academic qualifications avoid being duped into investing time and money in worthless certificates while also exposing those intending to pass themselves off as bearers of valuable knowledge.

The Ministry of Higher Education has taken some measures to address the situation, ordering a comprehensive investigation and instructing the Ministry of Commerce to only approve degrees from universities recognized by the higher education ministry.

Fifty-two establishments and purported educational bodies in the Kingdom offering distance courses have also been shut down by the ministry.

Date: Aug 4, 2009

Source: The Saudi Gazette

Title: SOUTH KOREA: Students lose in government-hagweon fight

Link: http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/NEWKHSITE/data/html_dir/2009/08/04/200908040047.asp

Summary: The Education Ministry has recently put an ordinance into effect to forbid hagweon or private teaching institutes from running classes after 10 p.m.

The highly competitive college entrance exam and the frequently changing education system in Korea has generally led students to greatly rely on private tutoring. Observers worry about the students being shackled under such heavy tutoring and parents suffer from the high tutoring costs.

Parents point out that the government's attempts to reduce the hagwon tutoring hours will only push the students towards other alternatives, such as illicit secret lessons, unless schools come up with trustworthy education courses.

Date: Aug 4, 2009

Source: The Korea Herald

Title: **M Chinese community leader sworn in as Manitoba's new lieutenant-governor**

Link: <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/Chinese-community-leader-to--52425852.html>

Summary: The sound of military cannons from the Legislative Grounds this afternoon signalled the swearing in of Manitoba's new Lieutenant-Governor, Philip Lee. Lee replaces John Harvard as the Queen's representative in Manitoba.

Lee, the province's first Chinese-Canadian to be chosen lieutenant-governor, said he wants to work to bring Manitobans closer together and enhance the province's quality of life.

Lee was born in Hong Kong in 1944 and moved to Winnipeg in 1962 to study chemistry at the University of Manitoba. He has a bachelor's degree in science and a diploma in public administration, and worked as a chemist for the City of Winnipeg from 1967 to 2005.

Date: Aug 4, 2009

Source: The Winnipeg Free Press

Title: **GLOBAL: Economic contribution of foreign students**

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090802100845675>

Summary: Western countries that attract hundreds of thousands of foreign students each year often claim they contribute billions to their national economies. But a paper published exclusively on the *University World News* website today demonstrates how inaccurate such claims can be unless the calculations take account of a range of factors, including the income students earn while working in the country where they are studying.

In the paper, Monash University sociologist Dr Bob Birrell reveals that the true figure for the contribution of foreign students to the Australian economy is probably half the official sum and is therefore certainly not the most valuable of the service industries.

Date: Aug 5, 2009

Source: University World News

Title: **INDIA: Passage to India**

Link: <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/08/06/india>

Summary: Kapil Sibal, minister of human resource development, is pushing to open India to foreign universities hoping to set up campuses there. The majority of foreign universities currently operating in India conduct their business via "twinning arrangements" or program-specific collaborations.

My proposition, which I want to place before this august assembly today, is that the time has come, like in manufacturing and the service sector, in the area of education, for institutions to reach for students rather than students reaching for institutions," Sibal said during the recent UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education.

Date: Aug 6, 2009

Source: Inside Higher Ed

Title: **M U of M gets nod for producing top-level CEOs**

Link: <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/u-of-m-gets-nod-for-producing-top-level-ceos-52571402.html>

Summary: Not many schools in Canada exceed the University of Manitoba at preparing its students for success in the business world, according to a recent global study by the Ecole des Mines de Paris.

The university ranked 89th globally, and tied for fifth in Canada, in the study of 377 universities that looked at a single indicator: the number of graduates who are CEOs of the world's biggest companies.

The highest ranked institutions in the Ecole des Mines de Paris study were Tokyo University, Harvard University and Stanford University. In Canada, the top universities were Concordia, Queen's and the University of Toronto.

Date: Aug 6, 2009

Source: The Winnipeg Free Press

Title: NEW ZEALAND: Spending jump makes up for drop in foreign enrolments

Link: http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=10588912

Summary: New Zealand's export education providers will be meeting in Wellington today for a two-day conference to discuss ways to grow an industry that has so far appeared to be recession-proof.

Statistics New Zealand said a 14.2 per cent increase in the total number of weeks spent studying by all students was the main contributor to the increase in revenue and fees.

The education market faced a major setback in 2003 with the slump in Chinese student numbers but that sector is now clawing back

Date: Aug 6, 2009

Source: The New Zealand Herald

Title: UK: Thousands of students in Britain through suspect colleges

Link: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/5984753/Thousands-of-students-in-Britain-through-suspect-colleges.html>

Summary: Up to 4,000 students were enrolled in schools, colleges and universities which were this year refused an official license to sponsor international migrants under a new Home Office regime.

And that could still be a fraction of the true figure after a report by MPs last month warning tens of thousands of illegal immigrants could be here because of bogus colleges.

Damian Green, the shadow immigration minister, said: "We need to know from the Government that action is being taken to track down these 4,000 students from bogus colleges.

Date: Aug 7, 2009

Source: The Telegraph