

International Education News

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Title: AUSTRALIA: Assurances over student bashings

Link: <http://www.smh.com.au/national/assurances-over-student-bashings-20090807-ecze.html>

Summary: The Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, has promised to visit India this year after meeting the Indian Foreign Minister, S. M. Krishna, who described the recent violence against students in Australia as a "small irritation" that would not harm relations.

Mr Krishna said he came to Australia to seek reassurances about the safety of the 80,000 Indian students here.

After the meeting in Cairns, which was also attended by the Foreign Affairs Minister, Stephen Smith, Mr Krishna said he did not expect a decline in the number of Indian students in Australia.

Date: August 8, 2009

Source: The Sydney Morning Herald

Title: AUSTRALIA: Baird to head foreign education review

Link: <http://news.theage.com.au/breaking-news-national/baird-to-head-foreign-education-review-20090808-ed71.html>

Summary: Former Liberal MP Bruce Baird will head a government review into Australia's \$15.5 billion international education sector, aimed at shoring up the nation's third biggest export industry.

The review will examine legislation governing education services for overseas students, focusing on four main areas - the welfare of students, quality of services, regulation and the sustainability of the industry.

Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard, the education minister, said an issues paper would be released in coming weeks, outlining the key areas for consideration. Mr Baird is due to provide an interim report by November, to be considered by the Council of Australian Governments (CoAG).

Date: August 8, 2009

Source: The Age

Title: UK: Universities close courses to UK pupils

Link: http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/education/article6788739.ece

Summary: Leading universities have closed their doors to well-qualified British applicants while recruiting heavily from overseas candidates paying up to £15,000 a year.

Institutions including Bristol, Edinburgh, Nottingham and Surrey are exploiting a government policy which puts no restrictions on the lucrative international student market, while imposing strict caps on British numbers.

The situation will be exacerbated by clearing, the last-minute scramble for degree places that follows next week's A-level results. Even after clearing, some 20,000-40,000 are expected to be left with no place at all this autumn.

Date: August 9, 2009

Source: The Times Online

Title: GLOBAL: 'Soft power' China expands language centres

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090807100013824>

Summary: The Middle Kingdom's "soft power" approach to international relations continues with the planned establishment of three new Chinese national education centres at universities in Australia, Europe and the US.

China says the aim of the centres is to boost the number of students studying Chinese language and culture although its ongoing goal appears to be the generation of favourable public opinion.

The University of Melbourne announced last week that the first national Chinese Teacher Training Centre would be based at its graduate school of education.

Date: August 9, 2009

Source: University World News

Title: AUSTRALIA: Tackling the India crisis

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090807095047310>

Summary: In an effort to improve ties with India following a spate of widely-reported attacks on Indian students, Federal Education Minister Julia Gillard announced on Friday that the government would provide more than \$8 million to fund a new Australia India Institute at the University of Melbourne.

Gillard said the centre would aim to strengthen and sustain bilateral relationships between Australia and India and provide specialised knowledge about India. It would enable students, staff and the community to gain a greater understanding of the two countries through courses of study, conferences and relevant research.

Date: August 9, 2009

Source: University World News

Title: AUSTRALIA: Research universities and Australia's place in world

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=2009080709323641>

Summary: While expanding and diversifying the higher education system, Australia needs to rediscover the value of its flagship universities and recommit to their unique role.

Mass participation in higher education calls for new forms of provision to meet more diverse student needs and circumstances.

There is no equivocation in Canada. Basic research is seen to serve an important function as a national strategic reserve - making available the expertise needed to address unexpected events when they occur. The Canadian approach is a balanced, analogous to a financial investment portfolio.

Date: August 9, 2009

Source: University World News

Title: THAILAND: Top seven to become research universities

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090807092520711>

Summary: Seven Thai universities that appeared in the Top 500 of the Times Higher Education-QS World University Rankings in 2008 have qualified to become national research universities, reports Wannapa Phetdee for *The Nation*.

About nine billion Bhat will be allocated to chosen universities, which each receiving Bhat 100 to Bhat 500 million a year for three years. And around three billion Bhat will be invested in a project promoting research into Thai higher education.

The Higher Education Commission will set up an online system to evaluate national research universities. It will also have assessors check them twice a year.

Date: August 9, 2009

Source: The Nation (http://www.nationmultimedia.com/2009/08/03/national/national_30108881.php) via University World News

Title: AUSTRALIA: Racism and attacks put off Indian students

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090807092120483>

Summary: Australia's elite universities are set to pay a high price for the Indian student crisis as middle-class parents, concerned for their children's safety, opt for degree courses in Britain, New Zealand, the United States and Canada, writes the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Two months of media reports about attacks on young Indians and allegations of rampant racism in Australian suburbs are having a serious impact, Indian education agents say. Since the controversy began, they say inquiries by students wanting to study at Australia's top tertiary institutions have halved.

Date: August 9, 2009

Source: The Sydney Morning Herald (<http://www.smh.com.au/national/india-is-losing-interest-in-our-universities-say-agents-20090730-e32w.html>) via University World News

Title: PAKISTAN: UK is still top student destination

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=2009080709203247>

Summary: The UK remains the most sought-after destination for Pakistani students even after nine were held and later deported from Britain on suspicion of terrorism earlier this year, according to student visa consultants, reports *AsianImage*.

Amanat Ali Anjum, a British Council consultant, also said the number of student visa applications filed with the British embassy was not likely to change. Every year around 8,000 to 9,000 students get admission into universities across Britain, with most hoping to graduate with degrees in Business Administration and Chartered Accountancy, he added.

Date: August 9, 2009

Source: Asian Image
(http://www.asianimage.co.uk/uk/4526370.UK_is_still_number_one_destination_for_Pakistani_students/)
via University World News

Title: ZIMBABWE: Brain drain strategies being developed

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090807091622299>

Summary: The Zimbabwean government is working on strategies to retain skilled manpower, reports *The Herald*. Higher and Tertiary Education Minister Stan Mudenge said last week that three committees had been set up to research how to stop the flight of skilled professionals from the country.

The state would soon launch a website that will serve to connect Zimbabwean professionals scattered around the world with those at home. The committees would explore ways Zimbabwe could benefit from its nationals based in the Diaspora and would establish who is where, what they are doing and what skills they have, Mudenge explained.

Date: August 9, 2009

Source: All Africa (<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908050409.html>) via University World News

Title: AUSTRALIA: International education sector at 'crisis point'

Link: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/08/09/2650298.htm?site=news>

Summary: The Federal Government yesterday announced former Liberal MP Bruce Baird would head the review of Australia's third-biggest export industry.

The sector's image has been damaged by revelations of scams and exploitation, the collapse of a number of colleges and violent attacks against some students.

National Union of Students spokesman David Barrow says reform is urgently needed. "These issues that have been affecting international students for more than a decade are getting to crisis point now," he said.

Date: August 09, 2009

Source: ABC News

Title: AUSTRALIA: Dubious Oz institutes ruin young Indians' lives: Krishna

Link: <http://www.indianexpress.com/news/dubious-oz-institutes-ruin-young-indians-lives-krishna/500212/>

Summary: External Affairs Minister S M Krishna has said some "dubious" educational institutions in Australia were ruining the lives of young Indians and asked Canberra to come out with new regulations to cover private colleges to undo the damage.

He also called for new regulations to cover private colleges and continued reform by the federal and state governments. However, Krishna also praised Canberra and state governments for responding to India's concerns. He said the damage to Australia's reputation in India need not be long term.

Date: August 10, 2009

Source: The Indian Express

Title: **M Sharing research ideas**

Link: <http://myuminfo.umanitoba.ca/index.asp?sec=2&too=100&eve=8&dat=8/10/2009&npa=19983>

Summary: The University of Manitoba has joined forces with India's leading institute of crop processing in regions prone to storms, flooding and cyclones.

The new pact means University of Manitoba faculty and students will do research and share ideas with their counterparts at the Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology (IICPT).

Together, the two post-secondary institutions will develop new programs and courses; do research, lectures and training; share research materials; and provide students and faculty with exchange opportunities.

Date: August 10, 2009

Source: University of Manitoba

Title: **AUSTRALIA: Learning from Australia's Export Education Model**

Link: <http://www.wes.org/ewenr/09aug/practical.htm>

Summary: Australia has made tremendous financial gains from a robust export education industry. At the same time, the facilitation of international students as immigrants has brought forth unique challenges as the distinction between academic institutions and the delivery of quality education and immigration and employment outcomes have become muddled.

For many private institutions and vocational and language schools, as well as universities that have opened branch campuses and catered specifically to international students as potential migrants, concerns persist about standards and delivery of higher education, ethical recruitment and the sustainability of this model.

Date: August 10, 2009

Source: World Education Services

Title: **M New international ranking places U of M high on list**

Link: <http://myuminfo.umanitoba.ca/index.asp?sec=2&too=100&eve=8&dat=8/10/2009&npa=19996>

Summary: A professional ranking of world universities conducted by a European educational institution has found the University of Manitoba tied for fifth place in Canada at "preparing students adequately for professional activities."

The study looked at the performance of educational training programs at 3750 universities and post-secondary institutions throughout the world, based on the business and professional career accomplishments of their graduates.

The University of Manitoba was ranked 89th in the world, scoring higher than such institutions as the London Business School and Johns Hopkins University.

Date: August 10, 2009

Source: The University of Manitoba

Title: **SOUTH AFRICA: A South African Student Charity Becomes a Study-Abroad Destination**

Link: http://chronicle.com/article/From-South-African-Student/47952/?sid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en

Summary: Part of a summer service-learning and study program offered through Arcadia University, in Pennsylvania, the students have spent the past five weeks in South Africa. They divide their time among academic field trips, lectures at nearby University of Cape Town, and tutoring young students, as well as training adults to use computers at this center deep inside this poor township.

Program officials hope that by meshing the experience of working in the chaotic and resource-strapped township with the intellectual study of South Africa's rich and complex social history, students will be more engaged.

Date: August 10, 2009

Source: The Chronicle of Higher Education

Title:	IRELAND: Wooing more foreign students	
Link:	http://www.google.com/gwt/n?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.independent.ie%2Fopinion%2Fletters%2Fwoing-more-foreign-students-1856134.html	
Summary:	<p>Ireland has not reached its potential as a study destination. Given the current economic climate, a flood of international students, in the short-term, onto the labour market may not be well-advised.</p> <p>However, an initiative to consider would be to offer students who commence undergraduate programmes in 2010 the opportunity to avail of a two-year graduate scheme when they complete their programme and receive an honours degree.</p> <p>To reach its full potential, Ireland's 'untapped natural resource' requires an initiative with a target to be at one-third of the Australian level by 2015.</p>	
Date:	August 11, 2009	Source: The Independent

Title:	GLOBAL: Universitas 21 Announce Joint Ph.D. Program	
Link:	http://www.google.com/gwt/n?u=http%3A%2F%2Fihec-djc.blogspot.com%2F2009%2F08%2Funiversitas-21-announce-joint-phd.html	
Summary:	<p>Universitas 21 has announced that fourteen member institutions have established a joint Ph.D. program.</p> <p>The Memorandum of Understanding signed in May 2009 by Vice-Chancellors and Presidents from the universities of Auckland, Birmingham, British Columbia, Delhi, Dublin, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Hong Kong, Korea, McGill, Melbourne, Nottingham, Queensland and Virginia: "enables doctoral students to embark on joint degrees which will considerably enhance their research and employment opportunities on an international scale."</p> <p>Universitas 21 is an international network of 21 leading research-intensive universities in thirteen countries. You can learn more about Universitas 21 here.</p>	
Date:	August 11, 2009	Source: International Higher Education Consulting Blog

Title:	ICE's "UnFAIR" A Reverse Of Traditional International Recruitment Fair	
Link:	http://www.academicagroup.ca/node/8202	
Summary:	<p>The International Center for Education Inc. (ICE) recently announced its latest international venture called "unFAIR," meant to be the opposite of traditional international student recruitment fairs.</p> <p>The "unFAIR" entails Canadian college and university recruiters traveling to select cities in India to visit local students in their high schools, and build strategic contacts with guidance counselors and key influencers at town hall-style seminars.</p> <p>This "out-of-box" approach is designed for budget-conscious recruiters focused on student needs and adapting to developing trends in international recruitment. "unFAIR" will run November 26 to December 7, 2009.</p>	
Date:	August 11, 2009	Source: Academica Group

Title:	AUSTRALIA: Call to close failing schools	
Link:	http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25911151-13881,00.html	
Summary:	<p>The former head of England's curriculum authority and a one-time Australian teacher, Dr Boston yesterday urged school principals and his former colleagues to embrace greater scrutiny of their schools' results to avoid the problems of league tables experienced in England.</p> <p>The Rudd government is committed to providing detailed reports on school performance on a website by the end of the year, including results in national literacy and numeracy tests, information about the school and its students, and comparisons with "like groups" of schools with similar characteristics in so-called statistical neighbourhoods.</p>	
Date:	August 11, 2009	Source: The Australian

Title: AUSTRALIA: Days numbered for schools of scandal

Link: <http://www.smh.com.au/opinion/days-numbered-for-schools-of-scandal-20090810-efjf.html?page=-1>

Summary: Nearly half a million students come to study every year. They live here, work here and pay taxes. They contribute to our multicultural society while they gain skills and knowledge to take home.

Unfortunately, some people came to try to secure a visa, not to earn a degree or trade. A small number of unscrupulous providers emerged whose only motivation was to profit from helping their "students" win residency.

We cannot allow the enormous benefits - social and financial - of international education to be damaged in pursuit of a quick and easy profit for a few while many suffer.

Date: August 11, 2009

Source: The Sydney Morning Herald

Title: AUSTRALIA: Indian students in Australia: how did it come to this?

Link: <http://globalhighered.wordpress.com/2009/08/11/indian-students-in-australia-how-did-it-come-to-this/>

Summary: This contribution, by Christopher Ziguas examines the complex factors shaping ongoing debates, and recent crisis, about Indian students in Australia.

For several years many in the Australian international education industry have been warning that the rapid growth of private colleges providers focused on migration pathway programs posed serious threats to vulnerable students, who were sometimes willing to pay hefty fees and tolerate poor facilities and teaching in return for a piece of paper that would assist them to gain residency.

Date: August 11, 2009

Source: Global Higher Ed

Title: AUSTRALIA: Sector's \$15bn-plus export figures really stack up

Link: <http://www.google.com/gwt/n?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.theaustralian.news.com.au%2Fstory%2F0%2C25197%2C25915384-5006789%2C00.html>

Summary: Bob Birrell (The Australian, August 5) argues that claims of a \$15 billion export contribution by Australian education are exaggerated. He is wrong. In his nativistic enthusiasm he adopts a fundamentally flawed methodology and quite contestable specific figures.

For most in universities it is about the learning experience for all students and an international student presence that enhances that. Our obligation is to advance that objective in all the best ways possible, and not seek to pull it down.

Date: August 12, 2009

Source: The Australian

Title: GERMANY: Young Germans tackle Chinese

Link: <http://life.globaltimes.cn/editor-picks/2009-08/457170.html>

Summary: Germany has long offered Mandarin courses at university, many primary and high school students are now taking on the challenge of studying Chinese.

Germany is known for its excellent Sinologists, many of whom work as interpreters, translators, intercultural trainers and business consultants.

Currently, more than 100 schools in Germany offer Mandarin classes to students as young as 10 years old. The fact that Mandarin has penetrated this European bastion is due in part to China's increased global presence and the large amount of Chinese expatriates living on the continent.

Date: August 12, 2009

Source: Global Times

Title: AUSTRALIA: Indian students being scared away from Australia

Link: <http://www.academicagroup.ca/node/8225>

Summary: In recent months, media reports about a spate of violent attacks on Indian students studying at Australian colleges have cut in half the number of inquiries about Australia received by Indian education agents.

India's minister for external affairs was in Australia earlier this month to seek reassurances about the safety of the 93,000 Indian students in the country. The incidents have largely affected students at private vocational colleges, where enrolments of Indian students have soared 1700% in just 3 years.

Date: August 13, 2009

Source: The Sydney Morning Herald (<http://www.smh.com.au/national/india-is-losing-interest-in-our-universities-say-agents-20090730-e32w.html>) via Academica Group