

# International Education News

## October 17 – 23, 2009

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**Title:** **♦** John Ivison: Canada failing in university grad stakes

**Link:** <http://network.nationalpost.com/np/blogs/fullcomment/archive/2009/10/16/john-ivison-canada-failing-in-university-grad-stakes.aspx#>

**Summary:** Canada is "the lucky country", according to David Naylor. The soft-spoken University of Toronto president believes - despite its cold fronts, high taxes and maddening federal structure - Canada has the worst system of government, except for all the others. "This is an amazingly successful, inclusive democracy that has an abundance of natural resources and a multicultural population that is a model for the rest of the world," he said.

**Date:** October 16, 2009

**Source:** National Post

**Title:** SWEDEN: Plan to introduce fees creates problems

**Link:** <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20091015174906988>

**Summary:** In its budget for 2010, the Swedish government has proposed introducing fees for foreign students from 2011. The Education Ministry is preparing a bill that will be presented to Parliament while universities and government officials are working out how to handle the change. The Education Ministry has established a forum for international education where two representatives from 14 governmental agencies responsible for internationalisation of higher education meet with representatives from associations of students, academics and institutions.

**Date:** October 18, 2009

**Source:** University World News

**Title:** AFRICA: Maths institute AIMS for NextEinstein

**Link:** <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20091016095441701>

**Summary:** Science and technology are powerful forces for progress and, if the continent is to benefit fully from these forces, it needs to build a strong indigenous capacity in both. This is exactly what the African Institute of Mathematical Science has been striving for - and achieving - for the past six years.

AIMS was founded by South African Neil Turok as a postgraduate education centre supporting the development of mathematics and science across the African continent. A collaborative project between the universities of Cape Town, Stellenbosch and the Western Cape, its foreign partners include Cambridge and Oxford in the United Kingdom and Paris-Sud XI in France

**Date:** October 18, 2009

**Source:** University World News

**Title:** YEMEN: Minister threatens to close private universities

**Link:** <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20091015162711500>

**Summary:** Yemen's private universities only have preliminary licences and these could be withdrawn if institutions fail to comply with legal requirements, Higher Education and Scientific Research Minister Saleh Ali Ba Surrah warned last weekend.

**Date:** October 18, 2009

**Source:** University World News

**Title:** USA: Fulbright Program Adapts to Obama Administration's Priorities

**Link:** [http://chronicle.com/article/Fulbright-Program-Adapts-to/48828/?sid=at&utm\\_source=at&utm\\_medium=en](http://chronicle.com/article/Fulbright-Program-Adapts-to/48828/?sid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en)

**Summary:** The Fulbright Program, run by the U.S. Department of State, has always straddled the worlds of academe and public policy. Tailored to enhance both the international interests of the United States and the scholarship it supports, the program is sending 1,551 students and 1,250 scholars abroad this academic year.

Now, with a new administration in place, the State Department is reviewing the disciplines and areas of the world on which it wishes to focus, with an eye toward putting President Obama's stamp on the program.

**Date:** October 18, 2009

**Source:** The Chronicle of Higher Education

**Title:** PARIS: Scandal erupts at French university over alleged Chinese bribes

**Link:** <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/10/19/AR2009101902272.html>

**Summary:** The president of the University of Toulon and two top aides were suspended Monday over charges of irregularities in the admission and graduation of Chinese students allegedly ready to pay bribes for the prestige of a French diploma. The suspension, decided by Higher Education Minister Valerie Pécresse, was an unusual public stain on France's cherished tradition of opening its largely free education system to students from around the world. It underlined some of the pressures created by a skyrocketing number of Chinese students who go abroad, sometimes unprepared, to win the honor of a foreign diploma in China's increasingly competitive job market.

**Date:** October 20, 2009

**Source:** The Washington Post

**Title:** AUSTRALIA: Send foreign graduates home: MP

**Link:** <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/news/national/national/general/send-foreign-graduates-home-mp/1654081.aspx>

**Summary:** Federal Labor MP Kelvin Thomson has called on his party to stop overseas students from applying for permanent residency while they are in Australia, saying they should be forced back to their home country for a "cooling-off period" of two years before applying to live here. Australia's \$15.5 billion international education market is under review after several violent attacks on Indian students in Sydney and Melbourne earlier this year. Mr Thomson said a logical reform would be to cancel the opportunity to claim residency when overseas students completed their Australian studies.

**Date:** October 20, 2009

**Source:** The Canberra Times

**Title:** ♦ Tuition fees up nearly 4% in Canada

**Link:** <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/091020/dq091020b-eng.htm>

**Summary:** New figures from Statistics Canada show full-time undergraduate students in the country face the same increase in tuition fees -- 3.6% -- for this academic year as they did last year. Students this year are paying an average of \$4,917 in tuition fees, compared to \$4,747 in the 2008-09 academic year. Tuition fees rose in all but 3 provinces -- Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. On average, undergraduates in Ontario are paying the highest fees at \$5,951, while their peers in Quebec pay the lowest at an average of \$2,272. Graduate and international students are paying more this year, and additional compulsory fees are also on the rise.

**Date:** October 20, 2009

**Source:** Statistics Canada

**Title:** AUSTRALIA: Dollar's rise, attacks hit demand

**Link:** <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,26237220-12332,00.html>

**Summary:** OVERSEAS university student numbers could fall by up to 10 per cent later next year, based on a halving in inquiries from India and a strong Australian dollar, according to one of the country's largest inquiries managers, Hobsons Asia-Pacific. "If the drop in inquiries during the last quarter continues then the drop in enrolments in semester two 2010 could be double-digit," Hobson's managing director David Harrington told the HES. "Semester one enrolments, which is the largest intake, will be less affected by the recent drop in inquiries due to the 12-month pipeline. This we expect to be flat."

**Date:** October 21, 2009

**Source:** The Australian Higher Education

**Title:** AUSTRALIA: Rules skew student choice

**Link:** <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,26237089-25192,00.html>

**Summary:** There is frequent criticism in the media about education agents and about students seeking permanent residence via the study-immigration route. Demographers have theories, trade unions have political positions and newspapers publish half-informative, half-inflammatory articles. This gets us nowhere; we need people for the coming economic boom. The submissions from universities to the Bradley review presented a self-serving view of education. Their submissions painted the education and immigration nexus as though it were some insidious evil, but they love the fees students generate for their institutions.

**Date:** October 21, 2009

**Source:** The Australian Higher Education

**Title:** **M** Many hands help fulfil African man's dreams

**Link:** <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/life/many-hands-help-fulfil-african-mans-dreams-65138197.html>

**Summary:** It's been five years since Paul Abwonji left his home in Africa bound for Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba in search of higher education. Now, he not only gets his degree from the Asper School of Business but he also gets to share the experience with his mother, whom he hasn't seen since 2004. On Tuesday, the business school held a luncheon so Abwonji and his mother, Janet Okumu, could thank those who made his dream of graduating from U of M a reality.

**Date:** October 21, 2009

**Source:** Winnipeg Free Press

**Title:** UK: The world is at the top of the agenda across the UK

**Link:** <http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=26&storycode=408726&c=1>

**Summary:** Senior managers drive international strategies to equip institutions for global future, writes Phil Baty. When it comes to internationalisation, David Pilsbury, the pro vice-chancellor for international development at Coventry University, is clear that universities must be bold. Dr Pilsbury joined Coventry from the Worldwide Universities Network last year, taking up a role created specifically to drive the agenda from the senior level. In addition, the university has just filled another senior post in this area, hiring Robert Atkinson as director of international development.

**Date:** October 22, 2009

**Source:** The Times Higher Education

**Title:** AUSTRALIA: Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment (Re-registration of Providers and Other Measures) Bill 2009

**Link:** <http://apo.org.au/research/education-services-overseas-students-amendment-re-registration-providers-and-other-measures>

**Summary:** In 2009, the closure of several private education providers and allegations of corruption and substandard education services revealed weaknesses in the regulation of training providers in the international education sector and questionable practices by some education and immigration agents. A small number of unscrupulous operators have been able to operate resulting in damage to the reputation of the industry overseas. The Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment (Re-registration of Providers and Other Measures) Bill 2009 (the bill) addresses the growth of training providers capitalising on rising demand, especially from India, for an education and the chance for permanent residency.

**Date:** October 23, 2009

**Source:** Australian Policy Online

**Title:** AUSTRALIA: Concierge service to assist students in Australia

**Link:** <http://gulfnnews.com/about-gulf-news/al-nisr-portfolio/notes/articles/concierge-service-to-assist-students-in-australia-1.518141>

**Summary:** The launch of the world's first international student concierge service at the Najah education, training and careers exhibition this week will provide students from the UAE a unique Australian study experience. Chief Executive Officer of the International Student Accommodation Services (ISAS) Dean Giannarelli said the service is a one-stop-shop for students traveling to Australia for further education from the region.

**Date:** October 23, 2009

**Source:** Notes All About Tomorrow

**Title:** USA: THE VALUE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION TO U.S. BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY LEADERS: KEY FINDINGS FROM A SURVEY OF CEOs

**Link:** [http://www.iae.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Research\\_and\\_Evaluation/Briefing\\_Papers/CEOSurveyReportBriefingPaper3.pdf](http://www.iae.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Research_and_Evaluation/Briefing_Papers/CEOSurveyReportBriefingPaper3.pdf)

**Summary:** Study abroad experience is widely recognized among senior management as having the potential to cultivate valued skills and desirable personal qualities in new recruits. In a recent survey, ninety percent of senior management who reported studying abroad during their own careers also reported a hiring or promotion strategy that actively sought out and rewarded study abroad experience. This suggests that individuals with personal experience studying abroad are more likely to place a higher value on the study abroad experience of a potential employee.

**Date:** October 23, 2009

**Source:** Institute of International Education