

International Education News

September 12-18, 2009

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Title: CHINA: Company offers large money to promote Chinese language education overseas

Link: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-09/07/content_12011789.htm

Summary: The Chinese Language and Culture Education Foundation of China (CLCEF) received Monday a 20 million yuan (2.9 million U.S. dollars) donation to encourage overseas Chinese youths to study the country's language and culture.

The donation was made by Agile Property, a real estate company from Hong Kong. In January 2008, the foundation received its largest yet donation of 30 million yuan from the same company.

A spokesman with the foundation said the overall 50 million yuan would be used to train Chinese language teachers and support overseas Chinese youths to study Chinese.

Date: September 7, 2009

Source: Xinhuanet

Title: CHINA: China's demand for primary, junior high school teachers to reduce by 1mln by 2020

Link: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-09/08/content_12017749.htm

Summary: China's demand for teachers in its nine-year compulsory education is expected to drop by 1 million or 12 percent from the figure in 2008, according to a report released by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Tuesday.

The report listed a sharp drop in the number of students receiving compulsory education in primary and junior high schools at that time as a major reason for the prediction.

In the first half of the 21st century, China will witness a peak in its total population, working-age population, and elderly population, according to the National Population and Family Planning Commission.

Date: September 8, 2009

Source: Xinhuanet

Title: AFRICA: Pan-African University to launch in 2010

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090911234551272>

Summary: The Pan-African University, envisaged as a continental network of institutions training postgraduate students and promoting research, is set to open its doors to the first 100 students next February at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa. The centre at Stellenbosch, one of five institutions that will host the project, will focus on space sciences.

Supported by the African Union, the Pan-African University (PAU) will not construct a new higher education infrastructure - at least not for now - but will use existing universities as satellites across the continent to train masters and PhD students.

Date: September 13, 2009

Source: University World News

Title: INDIA: Six education reform bills in pipeline

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090911220138655>

Summary: India's Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal said last week that he will introduce six new bills, including one to replace existing education regulators with a commission, reports *Sindh Today*.

Sibal said the Ministry had set up a task force to aid and advise the government on setting up the proposed National Commission for Higher Education and Research. The ministry is also set to introduce legislation in the coming parliament session to allow foreign universities to open campuses in India.

Date: September 13, 2009

Source: Sindh Today (<http://www.sindhtoday.net/news/1/49275.htm>) via University World News

Title: SOUTH KOREA: Universities hire more foreign teachers

Link: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090911172158241>

Summary: Aiming to strengthen their global competitiveness, local universities look eager to recruit more foreign professors, reports *The Korea Herald*. Seoul National University has hired 19 foreign professors for this autumn semester. The figure accounts for 32% of newly recruited professors at the university, which hired eight professors (21%) in the fall semester of last year.

Full report on *The Korea Herald* site.

Date: September 13, 2009

Source: The Korea Herald
(http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/NEWKHSITE/data/html_dir/2009/09/08/200909080048.asp) via University World News

Title: INDIA: Fierce competition for top spots in India's peewee Ivy League

Link: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/fierce-competition-for-top-spots-in-indias-peewee-ivy-league/article1286255/#>

Summary: For a year, Sumit Vohra largely abandoned all other pursuits and applied himself with single-minded determination to one sole goal: getting his daughter into nursery school.

This may be the most academically competitive environment in the world: tougher than America's Ivy League; tougher than India's prestigious Institutes of Technology; tougher than Beijing's elite colleges.

The hysteria around nursery admissions is the result of rapid social change in parts of India, and most visible here in the capital.

Date: September 13, 2009

Source: The Globe and Mail

Title: PHILIPPINES: Koreans Flock to the Philippines to Learn English

Link: http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2009/09/117_51729.html

Summary: For South Korean students, the Philippines is now a haven as far as learning the English language is concerned. The last five years saw the phenomenal rise of the Philippines as the prime source of English education for South Koreans.

The Philippines -- ranked in the top 10 in terms of English-speaking population - has affordable education. This is coupled with its strategic distance from South Korea: Manila can be reached by plane in just four hours from Seoul.

In addition, the Philippines has a low cost of living, making it an appealing place for South Korean students to stay and live.

Date: September 13, 2009

Source: Korea Times

Title: USA: International students build bridges that help U.S. diplomatic interests

Link: http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/cgi-bin/PrintStory.pl?document_id=2009865158&zsection_id=268883724&slug=quest15bacon&date=20090914

Summary: As university students return to their campuses this fall, many of us who work closely with them reflect on the growing number of international students who travel to Washington to study and the resulting benefits to our community. Through the foundation, we host them and provide opportunities for them to learn about American culture.

But supporting international students is not only about hospitality. NAFSA: Association of International Educators estimated that international students contributed \$13.5 billion to the U.S. economy in 2005-2006. Most international students studying at state public institutions pay out-of-state tuition, helping to close the gap in funds needed to educate in-state students.

Date: September 14, 2009

Source: The Seattle Times

Title: EUROPE: European Universities Look Overseas for New Partnerships

Link: <http://chronicle.com/article/European-Universities-Look/48366/>

Summary: The Spanish foundation is the newest entrant in an expanding group of European organizations created to raise the international profile of universities on the Continent. This week roughly 4,000 European educators will meet in Madrid to discuss their strategies at the annual conference of the European Association for International Education.

European nations are also keenly aware that because the United States remains the preferred destination for many international students, European institutions must work together to increase their international appeal.

Date: September 14, 2009

Source: The Chronicle of Higher Education

Title: SOUTH KOREA: Korean Universities Increase Quotas for Foreign Professors

Link: http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2009/09/14/2009091400790.html

Summary: Leading Korean universities are hiring more foreign professors, part of an effort to improve the quality of university education in view of a more competitive global environment. Some 200 foreign professors have been hired at local universities so far this year for various areas of study.

Hiring professors from abroad is particularly important for studying foreign languages since it provides greater opportunity for students to practice and improve their language skills.

The government is also taking part through a project aimed at encouraging universities to focus on research that meets global standards.

Date: September 14, 2009

Source: The Chosun Ilbo

Title: AUSTRALIA: Gillard kicks off student roundtable

Link: <http://www.watoday.com.au/breaking-news-national/gillard-kicks-off-student-roundtable-20090914-fnct.html?page=-1>

Summary: Parents with children studying in Australia have every right to be concerned by a spate of attacks on Indian students, says federal Education Minister Julia Gillard.

But Ms Gillard has stressed the government is taking action to ensure the wellbeing and safety of all international students.

Their safety is likely to be among the main discussion points at a two-day roundtable discussion currently being held in Canberra. Ms Gillard opened the meeting by telling the 31 assembled students, representing every continent on the globe, their voice was deeply important.

Date: September 14, 2009

Source: WA Today

Title: NORTH KOREA: North Korea to Get First Foreign-Sponsored University

Link: <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/09/14/qt#208156>

Summary: Pyongyang University of Science and Technology will open this week as the first foreign-sponsored university in North Korea, AFP reported. The university is backed by a foundation in South Korea, which has spent more than \$32 million on the project. Faculty members will be Koreans -- from North and South Korea, and ethnic Koreans who live elsewhere.

Date: September 14, 2009

Source: Inside Higher Ed

Title:	USA: Intercultural Eyes - An International Education & Assessment Consultant You Should Know About		
Link:	http://ihec-djc.blogspot.com/2009/09/intercultural-eyes-international.html		
Summary:	<p>Bettina Hansel, after almost 30 years working for AFS Intercultural Programs and the past seven years as Director of Intercultural Education and Research, has started her own consulting business.</p> <p>Bettina writes and publishes <i>Intercultural Eyes</i>, which chronicles her “ongoing journey as a geographer and as an intercultural explorer.” <i>IHEC Blog</i> readers might want to bookmark <i>Intercultural Eyes</i> or grab the RSS Feed here.</p> <p>Additionally, Bettina is the author of <i>The Exchange Student Survival Kit</i> which you can order at a very reasonable price here.</p> <p>You can visit Bettina’s website here.</p>		
Date:	September 14, 2009	Source:	International Higher Education Consulting Blog

Title:	GLOBAL: What Defines an International Student? A Look Behind the Numbers		
Link:	http://www.wes.org/ewenr/09sept/feature.htm		
Summary:	<p>In collaboration with UNESCO and Eurostat, the OECD has begun the process of standardizing procedures for measuring international student flows for statistical purposes. However, there remain great differences among national immigration procedures in addition to constraints on the availability of data, which continues to make the accurate comparison of student-flow data complex at best, and misleading and inaccurate at worst.</p> <p>Analysts of the OECD and UIS statistics have to continue to be careful in how they cite the data, as much as they would if comparing individual datasets from different countries.</p>		
Date:	September 14, 2009	Source:	

Title:	KOREA-AUSTRIA: Korea, Austria agree to expand cooperation on education		
Link:	http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/NEWKHSITE/data/html_dir/2009/09/15/200909150033.asp		
Summary:	<p>Korean and Austrian education ministers yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding on expanding bilateral cooperation in tertiary education.</p> <p>During the meeting, Education, Science and Technology Minister Ahn Byong-man called for Austrian students' active participation in the Korean government's scholarship project for invited foreign students, while requesting the Austrian Exchange Service's continued support for Korean students in Austria.</p> <p>The two ministers also agreed to hold the second "Korea-Austria Science Day" in Seoul in the first half of next year, aiming to expand the infrastructure for joint scientific research between the two countries.</p>		
Date:	September 15, 2009	Source:	The Korea Herald

Title:	SOUTH KOREA: Immigration Official Claims Work-Study Program Abuse By Korean Students		
Link:	http://www.academicagroup.ca/node/8445		
Summary:	<p>Martin Mundel, an immigration counselor and program manager at the Canadian Embassy in Seoul, South Korea, has blown the whistle on an alleged scheme in which the majority of prospective Korean students bound for private language schools in Canada do not actually attend school, and instead use the work permits they receive as part of the deal to secure jobs.</p> <p>Despite the abuse, Mundel says his office still supports Ottawa's efforts to promote Canada as a destination for Korean students, who pump over \$1 billion into the Canadian economy every year.</p>		
Date:	September 15, 2009	Source:	Canwest News Service (http://www.canada.com/business/Foreign+students+abusing+work+study+program+official/1989722/story.html) via Academica Group

Title: **INDIA: Indian Universities May Be Allowed To Open Campuses Abroad**

Link: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v5/newsworld.php?id=440461>

Summary: India is mulling over the idea of allowing Indian universities to set up campuses abroad, a move that would benefit the institutes to increase their global presence.

At present, a few deemed universities and University of Pune have opened campuses abroad. The Washington Trade Mission is here to explore the possibility of engaging with India in higher education.

Washington Secretary of State Sam Reed said that the delegation would interact with Indian entities in many areas, including trade, export and education. They will explore possibilities of collaboration in these areas.

Date: September 15, 2009

Source: Bernama

Title: **SOUTH KOREA: Korean Universities Start Exporting Services**

Link: http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2009/09/15/2009091500382.html

Summary: Korean universities have started exporting education services. In addition to simple exchanges of students and professors, they are exporting content, developing and selling curricula and textbooks, or providing consulting services for the operation of universities.

Some Korean universities are also providing management consulting services to foreign schools. Sungkyunkwan University advises Hanoi College of Pharmacy in Vietnam on a new construction project.

All these are also self-help measures for universities and colleges in preparation for shrinking enrolment.

Date: September 15, 2009

Source: The Chosun Ilbo

Title: **USA: Overseas Study Is Down, and the Economy Takes the Blame**

Link: http://chronicle.com/article/Overseas-Study-Is-Down-and/48420/?sid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en

Summary: Nearly 60% of colleges and independent study-abroad providers surveyed by the Forum on Education Abroad said enrolments had fallen from the previous year.

In another sign of stress for the programs, 60% of respondents said their budgets had been cut in the past year.

At the same time, the economic downturn could be affecting the decisions of students who still opt to study overseas. 16% of institutions and organizations surveyed said students were choosing less expensive programs, 11% noted students were picking short-term programs, and 11% said they were selecting less costly destinations.

Date: September 15, 2009

Source: The Chronicle of Higher Education

Title: **USA: Schools Look Abroad to Hire Teachers**

Link: http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/15/education/15teach.html?_r=1

Summary: Some American school districts have turned increasingly to overseas recruiting to find teachers willing to work in their hard-to-staff schools, according to a new report by a national teachers union.

The report used government data to estimate that 19,000 foreign teachers were working in the United States on temporary visas in 2007, and that the number was rising steadily. There are more than three million teachers in American public schools.

The report asserted that Baltimore school officials were leaning so heavily on foreign recruiting that they were recruiting less aggressively in the United States.

Date: September 15, 2009

Source: The New York Times

Title: SWEDEN: Fees are foreign to Sweden

Link: <http://www.sr.se/cgi-bin/International/nyhetssidor/artikel.asp?ProgramID=2054&format=1&artikel=3102905>

Summary: Students and faculty worry that the Swedish higher education, which is now free, will start coming at a price.

As soon as 2011, non-European students applying to Swedish universities may have to pay a 100 euro application fee, if The Swedish Agency for Higher Education Services gets its way.

The fee is supposed to pay for administrative costs involved in the application process. The large increase of international applicants, this fall 114,000 students applied to Swedish universities, have caused a larger workload.

Date: September 16, 2009

Source: Sveriges Radio

Title: USA: Engineering graduate shortage makes US companies look internationally

Link: <http://www.statepress.com/node/7532>

Summary: A decrease in students graduating with engineering degrees is causing an employment crisis in the industry despite high starting salaries in the field, officials said.

The number of engineering graduates at ASU must grow in coming years in order to replace the number of engineers close to retirement, said Robin Hammond, director of career services at the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering.

However, one problem engineering companies are running into is that the law limits the amount of international applicants who can occupy these places, Koc said. Current law limits the maximum number of specialty work visas to 65,000 per year.

Date: September 16, 2009

Source: State Press

Title: EUROPE: English takes over Europe's lecture halls

Link: <http://www.presseurop.eu/content/article/97931-english-takes-over-europes-lecture-halls>

Summary: The plethora of EU languages is actually an obstacle to the realization of the European Higher Education Area, which is supposed to promote student mobility. As a result, everything suggests that English is going to serve as the lingua franca of European academia.

But achieving that goal will require medium- and long-term investment (not only economic, but above all organizational – as well as plenty of political impetus), and will not be without complications.

Date: September 16, 2009

Source: Press Europ

Title: UK: Glamour, not strategy, drives students abroad

Link: <http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=26&storycode=408205&c=1>

Summary: British students attracted to the idea of studying overseas are a privileged bunch who are looking for excitement, glamour and adventure, a new study suggests.

Johanna Waters, a lecturer at the University of Liverpool, and Rachel Brooks, a senior lecturer at the University of Surrey, interviewed 85 UK students who had either studied overseas or were considering it.

"The vast majority of individuals stressed 'excitement', 'glamour' and 'adventure'," the researchers write in the paper "Accidental achievers? International higher education, class reproduction and privilege in the experiences of UK students overseas", presented at the annual British Educational Research Association conference earlier this month.

Date: September 17, 2009

Source: Times Higher Education

Title: ♦ **Reality check for a big idea**

Link: <http://www2.macleans.ca/2009/09/17/reality-check-for-a-big-idea/print/>

Summary: The presidents of McGill University, the Université de Montréal, and the universities of British Columbia, Alberta and Toronto, outlined their vision for a veritable revolution in Canada's post-secondary system in an interview with Macleans.

The one-size-fits-all-mentality that governs higher education policy, they argued, must be replaced with a model that funnels research dollars to top-performing schools and lets the rest focus on undergraduate education.

But one thing is clear: without support from the provinces—which, more than any other sources, fund post-secondary education—the Big Five's big ideas are unlikely to be translated into action. All the ministers interviewed were adamant that no "strategy that zeroes in on just five" institutions is likely to be championed by the provinces.

Date: September 17, 2009

Source: Macleans

Title: **NEW ZEALAND: Schools fall behind on new lesson plan**

Link: http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=10597774

Summary: Only 2 per cent of high schools are ready for an extensive overhaul of the national curriculum in five months, a Government monitoring project has found.

The new curriculum, designed to give schools more flexibility to shape their own curriculum to suit students, was planned three years ago after one of the most comprehensive consultation processes by the Ministry of Education.

The report said inadequate leadership, poor understanding of the new curriculum, and a view that preparations were unnecessary or difficult were among reasons some schools were not ready.

Date: September 17, 2009

Source: The New Zealand Herald

Title: **AUSTRALIA: Australia has a vital role to play in educating India**

Link: <http://www.smh.com.au/opinion/politics/australia-has-a-vital-role-to-play-in-educating-india-20090918-fui6.html>

Summary: Julia Gillard, Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister of Australia, discusses Australia's role in educating India.

Universal education is a given in Australia, but sadly for many children in India, particularly in the rural areas, attending school remains a dream.

Teacher quality, increasing the number of girls attending school, and reaching remote, rural villages are just three of the areas with which the country is grappling. But the task is mind-boggling in its scope.

India cannot achieve its aims on its own. It will need the assistance of countries with quality education systems to provide the human resources to continue to grow.

Date: September 18, 2009

Source: The Sydney Morning Herald

Title: VIETNAM: Viet Nam aims to learn from the best overseas universities

Link: <http://vietnamnews.vnagency.com.vn/showarticle.php?num=02EDU180909>

Summary: Learning from the experience and success of well-known international universities was important for the renewal of Viet Nam's education sector, Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Thien Nhan said yesterday.

He said the target for the coming academic year was a renewal campaign in training, managing and financing - and that to achieve it, international co-operation and experience played an important role.

Viet Nam currently has no institution on the list of the world's best 200 universities, according to Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Thien Nhan. However, he said it planned to have five international-standard universities by 2025.

Date: September 18, 2009

Source: Viet Nam News