

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.

M = Manitoba Articles **♣** = Canadian Articles

In this issue...

EAST ASIA: In pursuit of scarcity: transnational students, 'employability', and the MBA.....	1
UK: 'Going away to uni': mobility, modernity, and independence of English higher education students.....	2
♣ Who do they think we are?	2
AUSTRALIA: Australia's poisoned alumni: international education and the costs to Australia.....	2
VENEZUELA: New education clash in Venezuela	2
SINGAPORE: Limited government support forces bright students overseas.....	3
GERMANY: Bribes for Doctorates Investigated in Germany.....	3
INDIA: Top Canadian universities to tour India	3
INDIA: Special packages await students going abroad for education	3
UK: Overseas student surge hits 110,000: And all but a tenth decide they'll stay in Britain	4
THAILAND: Ministry plans to upgrade schools into internationals.....	4
♣ Canadian universities strive for differentiation and elite (global) standing	4
USA: U.S. students behind in math, science, analysis says.....	4
AUSTRALIA: Fear grips Chinese students in Australia.....	5
FINLAND: When the levy breaks.....	5
UK: Western dominance of education under threat.....	5
USA: 'Study in US' loses lustre for cautious Indians.....	5
AUSTRALIA: International students 'need protection'	6
SOUTH KOREA: 'Easy' English may not be natural, says Oh.....	6
INDIA: India's new schtick: study mecca.....	6
AUSTRALIA: Foreign students 'competing for Australian jobs'	6
NEW ZEALAND: New Zealand recognizes importance of International Students.....	7

Title: EAST ASIA: In pursuit of scarcity: transnational students, 'employability', and the MBA

Link: <http://www.envplan.com/abstract.cgi?id=a40319>

Summary: The article describes 'credential inflation' as one of the more controversial consequences of the recent expansion of higher education in East Asia. Concerns over the effects of credential inflation have generated a number of debates around concepts of 'employability' and postgraduate learning.

The article argues that the employability of young graduates is increasingly dependent upon their ability to maintain 'positional advantage' in a labour market characterised by 'boundaryless careers' in the contemporary knowledge-based economy.

Date: April 28, 2009

Source: Environment and Planning A

Title:	UK: 'Going away to uni': mobility, modernity, and independence of English higher education students
Link:	http://www.envplan.com/abstract.cgi?id=a41177
Summary:	<p>British higher education institutions are now trying to increase diversity by making changes in admission policies and financial support. They believe that with a greater number of students from different backgrounds enrolled in post secondary institutions, future high school graduates will be inclined to study in higher education institutions as well.</p> <p>The article further explains that despite how many students may like to leave home for higher education, the cost often is too much. Student mobility seems like an elite practice made for only the rich who can afford the living and study expenses of 'going away for uni'.</p>
Date:	April 28, 2009
Source:	Environment and Planning A

Title:	Who do they think we are?
Link:	http://www.theglobeandmail.com/books/who-do-they-think-we-are/article1256954/
Summary:	<p>At a time when nations are striving to brand themselves as leaders in the arts, sciences and technology, one high-profile <i>faux pas</i> can negate years of carefully managed marketing.</p> <p>Evan Potter's message is that a country's brand matters. Of all the instruments of public diplomacy, culture is the most self-defining and long-lasting. Sport is another instrument of public diplomacy. Tourism contributes, too, and not just through the people who see Canada first-hand.</p> <p>Potter also emphasizes that activities aimed at strengthening relationships and improving understanding – such as providing scholarships for foreign students – can generate even greater long-term gains.</p>
Date:	August 19, 2009
Source:	The Globe and Mail

Title:	AUSTRALIA: Australia's poisoned alumni: international education and the costs to Australia
Link:	http://apo.org.au/research/australias-poisoned-alumni-international-education-and-costs-australia
Summary:	<p>In this new Lowy Institute Policy Brief, Executive Director Michael Wesley analyses the multi-faceted international student debate. It canvasses the dynamics of the international student industry and the social, economic and criminal issues faced by international students during their time in Australia.</p> <p>Wesley scrutinizes the wide-ranging implications of the problem and considers that if left unaddressed, it is likely to worsen. The paper, with its considered and instructive policy recommendations, represents an independent and relevant contribution to the debate with Wesley forewarning the potential creation of a poisoned alumni.</p>
Date:	August 21, 2009
Source:	Australian Policy Online

Title:	VENEZUELA: New education clash in Venezuela
Link:	http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/8216588.stm
Summary:	<p>Venezuelan police have fired teargas to stop thousands of protesters against a new education law from breaking past a security cordon in the capital Caracas.</p> <p>Protesters accuse the government of President Hugo Chavez of indoctrinating children into backing socialist values. Health officials said dozens of people were treated for minor injuries.</p> <p>Elsewhere in the capital on Sunday, thousands of Chavez supporters held a counter-rally. They say the new law will give everyone equal access to education, regardless of their economic position.</p>
Date:	August 23, 2009
Source:	BBC News

Title: SINGAPORE: Limited government support forces bright students overseas

Link: <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2009/08/24/limited-govt-support-forces-bright-students-overseas.html>

Summary: Despite its infamous social and economic problems, Indonesia has seen many of its top students successfully attract the world's attention for their achievement. From 1993 to 2007, for example, Indonesian students won 54 gold medals, 33 silver medals and 42 bronze medals at various international science and physics competitions.

However, with limited support from the government, many of these bright students end up continuing their studies in developed countries including Singapore, the US and Japan, which offer many scholarships as well as world-class research facilities. It is common to see these scholars go on to work in the country that sponsored their education.

Date: August 24, 2009

Source: The Jakarta Post

Title: GERMANY: Bribes for Doctorates Investigated in Germany

Link: <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/08/24/qt#206392>

Summary: Authorities in Germany are investigating about 100 professors involved in possible bribery to help students obtain their Ph.D.'s, the Associated Press reported.

Hundreds of doctoral students may have been involved, although it is unclear whether they knew about the bribes. Authorities say that the students were paying money to a company that promised to help them with their doctorates, and that this company in turn paid the professors. Many of the professors were people hired to teach selected classes, not full-time faculty members.

Date: August 24, 2009

Source: Inside Higher Ed

Title: INDIA: Top Canadian universities to tour India

Link: <http://www.sindhtoday.net/news/1/44752.htm>

Summary: Thirteen of Canada's elite universities will be in India from August 23 to September 4 to hold information sessions on Canada as a destination for higher education.

The tour is organized by the Canadian Higher Education Committee under the aegis of the Council of International Schools (CIS). The Council's fifth annual tour to India will begin in Mumbai and continue in Pune, Delhi and Bangalore.

Indian students choose Canada because a strong education and a positive international experience is the foundation for their exciting and successful futures. The quality, affordability and renowned research opportunities are key factors in this decision.

Date: August 24, 2009

Source: Sindh Today

Title: INDIA: Special packages await students going abroad for education

Link: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/city/jaipur/Special-packages-await-students-going-abroad-for-education/articleshow/4930511.cms>

Summary: After offering all those special packages with attractive weekend getaways, various tour operators are now focusing on tapping the potential of the student fraternity by offering special airfares to those travelling abroad for education.

"Students of Indian origin are traveling in higher numbers than ever before to pursue higher education abroad and it makes business sense for tourism stakeholders to for a while to divert their attention to this sector," said an official from a private airline.

According to industry estimates, over \$13 billion is spent every year by nearly 450,000 Indian students on higher education abroad as they are not accommodated by domestic institutions.

Date: August 25, 2009

Source: The Times of India

Title:	UK: Overseas student surge hits 110,000: And all but a tenth decide they'll stay in Britain
Link:	http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1208816/Overseas-student-surge-hits-110-000-And-tenth-decide-theyll-stay-Britain.html#
Summary:	<p>An explosion in the number of non-EU students allowed to stay in the UK is adding 100,000 to the population every year, figures show.</p> <p>The figures will also fuel suspicion that ministers have granted huge numbers of visas to fund the controversial expansion of higher education. Foreign students pay up to £20,000 in tuition fees - compared to £3,000 for those from the UK.</p> <p>Despite turning away a record number of UK students last year and thousands struggling to win a place through clearing after last week's A-level results, universities are still recruiting heavily for overseas candidates.</p>
Date:	August 25, 2009
Source:	Mail Online

Title:	THAILAND: Ministry plans to upgrade schools into internationals
Link:	http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/local/22625/ministry-plans-to-upgrade-schools-into-internationals
Summary:	<p>The Education Ministry plans to upgrade 14 secondary schools, 10 in border provinces, into international schools next year as part of the policy to promote Thailand as a regional education hub.</p> <p>The Basic Education Commission would spend 500 million baht allocated from the government's Thai Strength Scheme to turn the schools into international institutes with all subjects taught in English.</p> <p>Tuition fees would be no more than 35,000 baht a head each semester, commission secretary-general Khunyong na Ayudhya said. The plan calls for 2,800 school executives and teachers to be trained to conduct courses at the schools in line with international standards.</p>
Date:	August 25, 2009
Source:	Bangkok Post

Title:	Canadian universities strive for differentiation and elite (global) standing
Link:	http://globalhighered.wordpress.com/2009/08/25/canadian-universities-strive-for-differentiation/
Summary:	<p>Unlike the UK case, Canadian universities like UBC are seeking <i>more</i> state support, though in this case via an enhanced <i>national</i> presence in higher education. Yesterday's <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i> captured this sentiment with considerable insight.</p> <p>But what national government is going to craft a strategy, and hand over more monies, without a greater role in governing universities? This is a Pandora's box if there ever was one.</p> <p>Canada's elites seeks more state action (and defacto dependence) while some of their equivalents in the UK seek to privatize to reduce dependence on the state, and all with the same end objective (elite global standing) in mind!</p>
Date:	August 25, 2009
Source:	The Chronicle of Higher Education (http://chronicle.com/article/Canadas-Elite-Universities/48013/) via Global Higher Ed

Title:	USA: U.S. students behind in math, science, analysis says
Link:	http://www.cnn.com/2009/US/08/25/students.science.math/index.html?iref=mpstoryview
Summary:	<p>American children aren't necessarily getting smarter or dumber, but that might not be good enough to compete globally, according to numbers cited Tuesday by Secretary of Education Arne Duncan.</p> <p>In science, the United States falls behind countries such as Canada, Japan and the Czech Republic. Duncan acknowledged that in some areas of the United States it is hard to find good math and science teachers. To solve that problem, he said, "I think we should pay math and science teachers a lot more money."</p>
Date:	August 25, 2009
Source:	CNN

Title: AUSTRALIA: Fear grips Chinese students in Australia

Link: <http://news.asiaone.com/News/Latest%2BNews/Asia/Story/A1Story20090826-163492.html>

Summary: Chinese students in Australia are scared for their safety following a string of disappearances and murders involving Asians in the country.

Police are investigating a number of disappearances and murders involving members of the Chinese community in recent months. These include 18-year-old student Xing Chaojin, whose shoes and backpack were found on Sydney's iconic Bondi Beach on June 2.

Last month, four members of a Chinese family were bludgeoned to death in their Sydney home. And police are investigating the discovery of the body of a 27-year-old Chinese man missing since March. Investigators believe he was murdered.

Date: August 26, 2009

Source: Asia One

Title: FINLAND: When the levy breaks

Link: <http://www.6d.fi/starters/page.2009-08-26.5557450703>

Summary: With some 450 study programmes offered in English, lectures are peppered with more cultural seasoning than ever before with foreigners making up around five per cent of the student bodies in Finland.

This number is set to increase as the Ministry of Education introduces an internationalisation module to all higher education degrees over the next six years. Whilst traditionally all education in Finland has been offered for free, 2010 sees the introduction of fees for some masters degree programmes for students originating from outside the EU.

Date: August 26, 2009

Source: The Helsinki Times

Title: UK: Western dominance of education under threat

Link: <http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=26&storycode=407867&c=1>

Summary: Anglo-American dominance of the international student market could be challenged by the emergence of new global power blocks in higher education. Continental Europe is increasingly becoming a threat to the UK's standing in the overseas market.

A 2008 report to the Government says that while the UK's share of the market is holding up at 11 per cent, second only to the US, it is now growing "at a significantly slower rate than some of its main competitors".

Date: August 27, 2009

Source: Times Higher Education

Title: USA: 'Study in US' loses lustre for cautious Indians

Link: http://www.dnaindia.com/world/report_study-in-us-loses-lustre-for-cautious-indians_1285480

Summary: US graduate school admissions offers to foreign students fell off a cliff this year, with student enrolment from India seeing a 16% decline, according to a report compiled this month by the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), which represents 500 US colleges.

The study shows there is a significant drop in Asians, especially Indians, taking loans to the tune of \$120,000 to study in the B-schools as they are not sure about getting H-1B visas.

Date: August 27, 2009

Source: DNA

Title: AUSTRALIA: International students 'need protection'

Link: <http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-national/international-students-need-protection-20090827-f0x9.html>

Summary: A coalition of peak educators has called on the federal government to roll out a new safety campaign designed to protect vulnerable international students.

As a starting point, the coalition has drawn up a 10-point action plan for international student education that they want to start discussing with the federal government before October.

It said it wasn't poor laws that were damaging the reputation of international education in Australia, it was the fact that they were not being enforced.

Date: August 27, 2009

Source: The Sydney Morning Herald

Title: SOUTH KOREA: 'Easy' English may not be natural, says Oh

Link: http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/NEWKHSITE/data/html_dir/2009/08/27/200908270013.asp

Summary: This is the 10th instalment of a series of interviews with experts in English education aimed at offering tips, trends and information related to English learning and teaching in Korea.

Oh Sok-tae, a professional English teacher and writer, said the dearth of high-quality English learning reference books in Korea is distorting the English education market.

The misguided practices in the English education market here also stem from a big misconception about what is called "easy English." Oh said that people involved in English learning guides and reference books have conflicting ideas about what are the ideal features for learners.

Date: August 27, 2009

Source: The Korea Herald

Title: INDIA: India's new schtick: study mecca

Link: <http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/india/090810/welcome-india-students-please-come>

Summary: A handful of Indian institutions, like are making an effort to welcome international students to their campuses. And the government of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, a former professor, has begun to apply India's first comprehensive strategy to woo foreign students. It is part of Singh's vision to make India a global knowledge hub.

Most of the Chinese students in India enroll in computer-science or English-language programs, two major Indian strengths that prompt many academics to believe that India could eventually become a global education center.

Date: August 28, 2009

Source: Global Post

Title: AUSTRALIA: Foreign students 'competing for Australian jobs'

Link: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/08/28/2670012.htm?section=australia>

Summary: Bob Kinnaird says jobs are scarce during the global financial crisis and he wants the Federal Government to examine the effect visiting students have on the job market.

"By about the middle of this year, we had approximately 45,000 visas granted to international student graduates at the same time that the number of jobs available for 15 to 24-year-olds has shrunk by over 100,000," he said.

Wesa Chau, of the Australian Federation of International Students, says it would be unfair to prevent overseas students from working in Australia. It would mean that many students would be unable to meet their living expenses.

Date: August 28, 2009

Source: ABC News

Title: NEW ZEALAND: New Zealand recognizes importance of International Students

Link: <http://www.punjabnewslines.com/content/view/full/18277/92/>

Summary: The government has committed an extra \$2 million to international education promotion over the next year to help attract more students to the New Zealand. In the bargain, the export education levy would be halved for every international student from \$900 per international fee-paying student to \$420 from January 1, 2010.

The step of reducing levy fee will leave more money in hands of education institutes facilitating them to attract more international students. The proposal of allocating extra money to international student education has come up in view of Prime Minister John Key's summit on Employment held in February this year.

Date: August 28, 2009

Source: Punjab Newsline