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## ABROAD PERSPECTIVE

### *Australian University Cricket Tour In India*

Queensland, which attracted 10% of Indian students studying in Australian universities in 2003, has approached international student recruitment in the Indian subcontinent from a clever angle – through cricket. Players from the State's nine universities recently toured India, in hopes of attracting potential students with an interest in the popular sport. According to Project Officer Sarah Schindeler, from the Queensland Department of Education, short-term scholarships will be available for two Indian students to enroll at the Queensland Cricket Academy.

The main purpose of the tour, however, was to promote Queensland as an overseas education destination. Schindeler said the visiting teams were accompanied by "an academic seminar series which profiled research and studies that are joint priorities for Australia and the Subcontinent, such as biotechnology, sustainable development and IT." She also stressed that academics would be the priority for future "incoming students, research exchanges or university-to-university agreements."

Source: "[Queensland University woos Indian students with cricket](#)," [WebIndia123.com](#), 28 March 2004.

## THE PLAYING FIELD

### *Middle East Student Recruitment*

With international student recruitment from the Middle East down 10% in the United States (from the 2003 Open Doors report), other countries are benefiting from increased interest from students. One such country is Canada. With several education fairs scheduled in the Middle East and North African region in late September and early October of this year, Canadian universities and colleges could offer students a viable alternative to studying in the US.

In Egypt, where the US has traditionally been the first choice for overseas study, the Canadian Embassy in Cairo has successfully organized two Educ-Canada fairs in October 2002 and October 2003. Both were held in Cairo under the patronage of the Egyptian Prime Minister and inaugurated by him and the Minister of Higher Education. Both fairs had 24 and 27 Canadian educational institutions respectively and approximately 3000 visitors over the 3 days for each fair, making these fairs the largest foreign education fairs in Egypt.

Source: "[International student enrollment growth slows in 2002/2003](#)," [Open Doors Press Release](#), 3 November 2003.

## OVER THE COUNTER

### *Indian Students In The UK*

The tremendous influx of Indian students to British universities is getting a backlash - in India. Growing criticism in the subcontinent points to misleading representations by allegedly academically mediocre British institutions with inflated tuition fees that attract large numbers of foreign students. Entitled, "Fee, Fo, Fum: A Neat Sum," the March 29, 2004 issue of India's influential and widely read news magazine *Outlook* presents several sides on the issue of whether Indian students are being exploited and simply subsidizing British higher-education by paying up to seven times the domestic fees, or benefiting from unprecedented opportunities abroad.

In the past few years, tens of thousands of student visas have been issued by the United Kingdom. During this period, Higher-Edge staff in the Indian sub-continent have repeatedly encountered a commonly held belief: rather than a permit to study, the visa is seen as much (if not more) as a ticket to immediate and long-term work in the UK. Students continue to flock to the UK, but many never end up in classes. The magazine reports that "every one of dozens of Indian students" interviewed all said they plan to stay on in Britain "somehow" and calls them "migrants on student visas."

Indian students and immigration is also the topic of our March/April 2004 *Insight, On-site: India* "Know The Student" report.

Source: "[Fee, Fo, Fum: A Neat Sum](#)," [Outlook](#), 29 March 2004. (Registration required)

## GLOBE TIPPING

### *Electricity Overseas*

Traveling overseas with electrical appliances (shavers, hair dryers, etc.) can be a hassle. With varying voltage (North America uses 110 volts, while most of the world uses 220-240 volts) it is useful to carry a portable transformer.

Another useful tool is a multiple adapter plug, as there are 14 different plug shapes used in the world!

For a handy guide to voltage and plugs used in countries, visit:

<http://users.pandora.be/worldstandards/electricity.htm>