

## OVER THE COUNTER

### **Universities U.K. Calls for Extension of Scottish Visa Deal**

When it comes to attracting international students, Scotland has an unfair advantage, say universities elsewhere in Britain.

The Scottish Executive policy—part of a program intended to reverse population decline in Scotland—permits foreigners studying in Scotland to extend their visas by two years. Universities U.K., which represents universities throughout Britain, says the program should be extended across the country.

Rather than arguing that the program should remain exclusive to Scotland, the director of Universities Scotland said he also hoped for a countrywide extension.

The Scottish Executive policy had more than 2,000 successful applicants in its first year.

Source: "[Call to Extend Student Visa Deal Across U.K.](#)", *The Herald*, September 14, 2006

## THE PLAYING FIELD

### **Foreign Enrolments Boom in South Korea**

The number of international students enrolled at South Korean universities increased by more than five times over the past six years, from 3,963 in 2000 to 22,624 in 2006, according to figures released recently by the South Korean Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development.

Roughly 65 per cent of South Korea's international students are Chinese; 5 per cent are from Japan, and 3 per cent are from Taiwan. Seoul has the biggest share of South Korea's foreign students, with 6,610.

South Korean universities have also been hiring more foreign professors; their numbers nearly doubled, climbing from 1,313 in 2000 to 2,540 in 2006.

Source: "[22,600 Foreigners Studying Here](#)," *Korea Times*, September 4, 2006

## ABROAD PERSPECTIVE

### **In Australia, New Visa Plan Attracts Controversy**

In a move thought likely to make the country more attractive to international students and draw in more workers in knowledge-heavy industries like information technology, the Australian government is planning to introduce new visa rules next July.

Details of the new visas are still being worked out, but a government report has recommended, among other things, a new temporary visa for foreign graduates of Australian universities. The visa holder would be allowed to work for two years in Australia; those gaining one full year of full-time professional work would be eligible to apply for permanent visas.

Australia's opposition Labor party may oppose the new rules, however, arguing they will pose a threat to the jobs of Australians.

Source: "[Short Visa, Lasting Harm](#)," *The Australian*, August 23, 2006

## GLOBE TIPPING

### **New Carry-On Rules Available at a Glance**

Earlier this week, the U.S. Transportation Safety Administration (T.S.A.) announced it was easing its ban, imposed after a series of arrests in London this summer, on the liquids, gels and aerosols passengers are allowed to carry on commercial aircraft.

Canada is adopting similar rules simultaneously, and other governments, including those of the E.U. and the U.K., are expected to follow suit in the coming weeks. The new rules, the T.S.A. said, are expected to last into the foreseeable future.

The rules are a little complex, so if you travel frequently you might find it worth bookmarking the [T.S.A.'s web site](#), which has links to handy web pages clearly explaining the new rules.