

THE PLAYING FIELD

Foreign students charged high tuition fees in UK

Education Guardian newspaper has revealed that international students pay a huge price to study in British colleges and universities.

Institutions such as the Royal Veterinary College, Imperial College London and Oxford University charge international students more than £17,000 (\$ 34,280 U.S.) a year for undergraduate courses. Domestic and EU students are charged a mere £3,070 (\$ 6,191 U.S.) a year. At the postgraduate level, international students face fees of between £3,950 (\$ 7,965 U.S.) at Edge Hill University and £16,686 (\$ 33,645 U.S.) at the London School of Economics.

Source: [“Foreign students charged hugely inflated tuition fees, survey.” Education Guardian, June 19, 2007](#)

ABROAD PERSPECTIVE

Backlash fear as China slams Australian varsity

With the Chinese government posting a warning about University of New South Wales' Singapore campus, academics fear enrolments to Australian universities could be affected. Higher-Edge had reported on June 13, 2007 that the Australian university closed its Asia campus as it was unable to enrol enough students.

The posting on the Chinese government website warns Chinese students to be wary of universities with a “low education quality and standards” and reprimanded UNSW Asia for spreading “boastful, false information” to attract enrolments.

According to UNSW spokeswoman Judy Brookman, “We have had no indication that the closure is having any impact on our student applications.” According to media reports, the failed venture could cost the Australian university more than \$ 40 million (\$ 35 million U.S.) in lost revenue, redundancies and refunds to students.

Source: [“Backlash fear as China slams uni,” Sydney Morning Herald, June 10, 2007](#)

OVER THE COUNTER

Malaysia plan to attract foreign students hits snag

Malaysia's ambitious plan to attract 100,000 foreign students to Malaysia by 2010 may not be achieved unless public universities revamp their applications process. According to Education Service Coordination International, a company involved in recruiting foreign students, the key problems are slow processing of applications, poor dissemination of information and outdated promotional strategies.

Source: [“Move To Draw 100,000 Foreign Students Hits Snag,” Bernama, June 10, 2007](#)

GLOBE TIPPING

Rains in Mumbai

Torrential rains in Mumbai this time of year has become a regular feature. The city virtually comes to a standstill as waterlogging in the metro's busy streets creates traffic snarls and general confusion. If you are travelling to Mumbai this summer, be advised of the severe monsoon situation and make sure you buy your tickets accordingly. In fact, this would hold true for several parts of India which have been disabled by severe rainfall and ensuing floods such as Gujarat and Kolkata.