

THE PLAYING FIELD

Call for foreign student subsidy in U.K.

According to a report presented by Britain's Higher Education Policy Institute (Hepi), U.K. taxpayers should subsidise overseas students studying in the country. The Hepi has stated that high tuition fees may deter foreign students from applying to the U.K. for higher studies. International students from non-EU countries pay at least £3.3bn (\$ 6.7 bn U.S.) a year on tuition fees and living expenses, the Hepi researchers estimate.

Source: ["Call for foreign student subsidy."](#)
[BBC News, July 12, 2007](#)

ABROAD PERSPECTIVE

Scottish colleges under scanner

Scotland's Border and Immigration Agency is investigating a number of Scottish colleges reportedly running dubious operations. According to a report published in *The Herald* newspaper, a number of Glasgow-based institutions were advertising non-existent courses and impressive campuses. Some were using logos of recognised educational and industry bodies on their websites without permission.

Strangely enough, all the colleges were on an official government list, which allows visas to be issued to students who have secured a place at them. Kelvin Business School, Commonwealth College Glasgow, Great Regent College, Middlesex College and Glasgow College are some of the institutions under the government scanner. The colleges claim to offer vocational as well as degree level courses.

Source: ["Visa probe into bogus colleges."](#)
[The Herald, July 11, 2007](#)

OVER THE COUNTER

U.S. visa scam in India

Nine Indian students have been arrested in New Delhi recently for presenting fake documents in order to secure student visas to the United States. The United States Consulate in Mumbai has revealed that the university that had issued these students the relevant documents is also under scrutiny.

Consular Section Mumbai Chief, U.S. Consulate, Glen Keiser was quoted in *Moneycontrol.com* as saying "This university is under the great danger of losing its power to accept foreign students. We are investigating four more universities that are suspects." Close to 25,000 U.S. student visas were issued to Indians last year. However, media reports suggest that not all of these students went there to pursue higher studies. A large number of student visa recipients used these visas to fraudulently get to the U.S. and took up jobs after landing there.

In India, as elsewhere, Higher-Edge uses a sophisticated screening system for student applicants to its university clients. Contact its COO, Mr. Mel Broitman at mel@higher-edge.com for more information.

Source: ["Pay middleman and get student visa for US!"](#)
[Moneycontrol, July 12, 2007](#)

GLOBE TIPPING

30 tips for better business travel

"If you aren't yet a Skype subscriber then think about becoming one. In some countries, using VoIP in the hotel lobby or a wi-fi zone can save you a small fortune in mobile phone roaming charges. Don't forget to pack your headset."

"Move to the destination time zone as soon as you take off. Once there, live to that time zone immediately - even if this means going to sleep three hours sooner or later than you want to."

You will find tips like this and many more in Silicon.com's [30 Tips for Better Business Travel](#), a useful compilation of online travel tips to make business travel bearable. From what to pack, to airline travel and practical advice on food and working in foreign countries with ease.