

THE PLAYING FIELD

English makes inroads at Swiss universities

In a bid to attract top international students, Swiss universities have begun offering courses in English. While neighbouring countries such as Germany provide the bulk of foreign students in Switzerland, there has been an increase in students from other countries. Of the non-European countries, China has the most number of foreign students in Switzerland. Indian and Russian students also form a sizeable number on Swiss campuses.

"We're trying to encourage our students to become mobile. We want to send them away and have other students coming, and to promote 'brain circulation'," said Johanna Ziberi of the Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities. "If you want to attract foreign students, you will best do it by having courses in English," said Ziberi, who is responsible for promoting contacts between Swiss and foreign universities. "English is the language of academia." Meanwhile, Swiss Parliament remains divided over whether English should be made the first foreign language taught at schools.

Source: ["English makes inroads at Swiss universities."](#)
[Swiss Info, September 26, 2007](#)

OVER THE COUNTER

Nigeria Loses N107bn to Exam Malpractices

Nigeria has lost over N107 billion (\$ 856 million U.S.) to exam malpractices, a report released by Exam Ethics Project (EEP) has revealed. According to the executive chairman of the EEP, Ike Onyechere, examination fraud has evolved into "organized crime controlled by syndicates with links in education ministries, examination agencies and educational institutions."

According to Onyechere, "The total number of post-primary exit examination results cancelled by public examination bodies including West African Examination Council (WAEC), National Examination Council (NECO), Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), as well as the National Business and Technical Education Board (NABTEB) in 2006 stood at 410,000.

Source: ["Nigeria: Country Loses N107bn to Exam Fraudsters."](#) All Africa, September 26, 2007

ABROAD PERSPECTIVE

More Koreans studying Overseas

A study by the Korean Educational Development Institute has indicated that there has been an increase in the number of Korean middle and high school students studying overseas. A record number of 29,511 elementary, middle and high school students went overseas to study between March 1, 2006, and Feb. 28, 2007. This was an increase of 44.6 percent compared to 20,400 in 2005.

There has also been an increase in the number of Korean students studying at universities abroad. This number has touched 200,000 for the first time. This year 217,959 Koreans went abroad to study at overseas universities, graduate schools or language institutes for adults, up from 190,364 in 2006. As of April 1, 2007, there were 59,022 Korean college or higher education students in the United States, 42,269 in China and 19,056 in Japan.

Source: ["Growing Number of Young Children Studying Overseas," Chosun News, September 27, 2007](#)

GLOBE TIPPING

Air travel within India to cost more

Low cost air travel within India is set to become a thing of the past. Most Indian airlines such as Spice Jet, Jet Airways and Kingfisher Airlines are planning to increase their fares to offset a increase in their fuel bills. For those planning to visit India in the coming months, please check the websites of individual airlines for more details of revised airfares.

www.jetairways.com

www.spicejet.com

www.flyingfisher.com