

THE PLAYING FIELD

Foreign student numbers on the rise in New Zealand

The government's ambitious \$ 10 million (\$ 7.1 million U.S.) strategy ([see issue dated August 15, 2007](#)) to boost education exports in New Zealand seems to have paid off. Education New Zealand, the umbrella industry body for education exporters in the country, have reported a rise in numbers of foreign students after an uncertain phase post 2002.

The country has been successful in attracting students from new markets such as Europe, South America and the Middle East. The number of students from Saudi Arabia has risen from none in 1999 to about 300 last year, while for India, it surged from 87 to 1721. The government has also recently announced some visa changes for foreign students. From next month, foreign graduate students will be able spend up to a year finding work in New Zealand instead of the current six months.

Source: ["Foreign student numbers on the rise," Stuff.co.nz, October 25, 2007](#)

ABROAD PERSPECTIVE

Report on international student mobility

A new study by Britain-based think-tank, the Observatory On Borderless Higher Education, presents an analysis of trends in international student mobility across countries. The study, entitled *International Student Mobility: Patterns and Trends*, examines trends in various countries' top sources of foreign students over the last 10 years.

According to the report, "international student demand may not continue to focus on what have been the main destinations in the past. The US, the UK and Australia have all experienced either a decline in enrolments or a 'slump' in the growth experienced in previous years."

Many European countries, which traditionally have maintained significant and stable recruitment numbers from a range of nations with which they share historical or linguistic connection have stepped up their marketing efforts. Meanwhile, new players in Asia and the Middle East have entered the market with declared ambitions to become regional education centers by attracting as many as several hundred thousand international students to their countries."

Source: [The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education](#)

OVER THE COUNTER

British university plans global degrees

Britain's University of Surrey is planning to offer global degrees in which students might move each year between partner universities in three countries. The university is planning to partner with institutions in the United States, China and Asia.

The globalisation strategy is aimed at increasing student numbers by 40 per cent in a decade. The university is looking at setting up international branches in China. A deal has also been signed with Dongbei University in China.

Globalisation has become a strong theme in higher education – and British universities are gearing up to compete on an international arena.

Source: ["University plans 'global degrees'," BBC News, November 6, 2007](#)

GLOBE TIPPING

Searching For Cybercafes

If you need to access the Internet and do not have a laptop at hand, the regularly updated "Cybercafe Search Engine" is a handy website to find out the locations of cybercafes around the world. Simply enter the city name and a list of known Internet cafes are displayed.

Website: <http://cybercaptive.com/>