

## THE PLAYING FIELD

### *U.K. universities supported by foreign students*

A new report from Universities UK has indicated that British universities are increasingly being supported by income from foreign students. According to the eighth *Patterns of Higher Education Institutions in the UK* report, since 2000-01 university income had grown by more than 50%. The largest share of the increase came from foreign students.

The report also reveals that enrolments of students from countries outside the European Union had increased by 105%. International fees were now a bigger source of income for most universities than research grants. China provides the most foreign students to the U.K. across most levels of study. In 2006-07, 18,410 Chinese students were doing first degrees, while some 21,620 were doing taught post-graduate courses.

Source: [“Foreigners ‘prop up’ universities.”](#)  
[BBC News, September 15, 2008](#)

## ABROAD PERSPECTIVE

### *Korean Universities to Attract 100,000 Foreign Students*

The Korean government has announced plans to attract 100,000 foreign students to the country by 2010. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology will increase the number of scholarships available to foreign students from 1500 this year to 2,450 in 2010 and 3,000 by 2012.

Universities will also receive incentives in the form of a combined \$2 million grant to open more English-only and Korean-language classes. More dormitories will be offered to foreigners as well. Foreign students will also be extended help in finding work in Korea. The number of foreign students in Korea has jumped three-fold over the last four years to 55,000 this year.

Source: [“Universities to Attract 100,000 Foreign Students,”](#) [Korea Times, August 4, 2008](#)

## OVER THE COUNTER

### *New Zealand universities woo Indian students*

In a bid to increase numbers of Indian students, the New Zealand government is providing a nine-month extension to students' visas to help them find jobs in the country. “It is a new initiative of the New Zealand government and it has helped increase the number of Indian students by more than 25 per cent last year,” said Paul Vaughan, trade commissioner (South Asia) of New Zealand Trade and Enterprise. The number of Indian students admitted to various courses across universities last year was around 4300.

Source: [“Kiwi universities woo students from India,”](#) [Indian Express, August 31, 2008](#)

## GLOBE TIPPING

### *Festival season in India*

For those of you planning a trip to India, be advised that festival season is around the corner. Two major Hindu festivals, Dusshera and Diwali are celebrated in the months of October and November throughout India. Schools are generally closed during these festivals. A useful resource to consult is [www.timeanddate.com](http://www.timeanddate.com) which lists out holidays in the country.