

OVERSEAS OVERWHELMED

Issue 3.30
October 29, 2003

A Bulletin for Canadian International Education Professionals

"Critical for success is accurate and current information about market opportunities and challenges and realistic strategies for addressing them. In my view, few organizations do this as well as Higher-Edge. Its comprehensive approach to developing marketing strategies is a model for others to follow. Its publications are insightful and timely, reflecting the many years of experience the co-founders have in working in challenging markets. The type of competitive intelligence that Higher-Edge provides is exactly what the Canadian educational sector needs for emerging markets."

Kevin S. Thompson, Counsel, Trade Law Bureau, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada

Abroad Perspective - Quality Education In Nigeria

The African continent is increasingly gaining attention amongst the worldwide international education community. In a recent visit to Nigeria, our CIO, Mr. Dani Zaretsky, met with a cross-section of personnel within Nigerian high schools, universities and the higher education and local diplomatic community at-large. One of his conclusions is that the Nigerian schooling system has particular appeal in that it lends itself to more transparent evaluation of academic calibre by virtue of its West African Examination Council (WAEC) system (the National Examination Council - or NECO - is another national exam of much more recent vintage). Moreover, the document preparation process, which was observed in detail by Dani on-site at the WAEC Lagos head office, is rigorous and admirable with the latest in sophisticated hardware, and creates an excellent foundation for creating high confidence when verifying WAEC results. As a result, Higher-Edge has launched the WAEC version of its Studentscreen verification service. For an FAQ of this service, email editor@higher-edge.com. •

Over the Counter - Report From Charlottetown, PEI

Immigration issues were hot-button ones at this past week's annual Canadian Bureau of International Education (CBIE) in Charlottetown. M. Renald Dussault, Directeur général - Sélection for Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada reviewed some of the new Federal - Provincial initiatives. Dussault reviewed three major ones being offered on a pilot project basis to individual provinces: (1) speedier visa processing at select overseas postings, (2) off-campus work authorizations, and (3) extension of a second year of authorization for post-graduation work authorizations. Dussault made clear that apart from the provincial pilots presently being implemented, cross-Canada implementation would not take place in less than one year. Dussault also affirmed that the Federal-Provincial one-on-one approach is one that is here to stay. The CBIE, in addressing Dussault, made clear that a single trans-Canadian regulatory regime covering international students must remain the goal. •

Let's Go Canada - The Australian Example

On October 14, the Australian Department of Education, Science and Training released a new policy statement, clearly outlining the country's plans to enhance the quality of an Australian education. By investing \$113 million into the international education sector, Australia looks to maintain its position as a premier destination for international students. With 86,271 international students in Australia for post-secondary study in 2001, one of the key areas being improved is the immigration process for students, through streamlining the visa processing and increasing resources, as well as introducing new visas (the Student Guardian Visa allows chaperones for younger students). In light of recent developments regarding student visa processing in Canada, Australia's steps indicate awareness by the entire government of the importance of international students and the importance of prompt visa processing.

Source: "[Overseas Student Enrolments by Country and Major Sector, 2000 and 2001](#)," "[Engaging the World Through Education](#)." •

Globe Tipping - Withdrawing Money In Shanghai

While most major banks and hotels have ATMs in their premises, it is not always the case that your debit card from home will be accepted. There are two ATM machines that service Cirrus and Plus customers in Shanghai, and they are located in the following Citibank locations:

Citibank ATMs (Cirrus/DC/Plus/V)

19 Zhongshan Yi Lu - near the Bund

1 Pudong Dadao (Marine Tower) - in Pudong

Source: "[Fodors.com>Miniguide>Shanghai Smart Travel Tips](#)." •

Publications by

HIGHER
EDGE

www.higher-edge.com/publications.htm

Please direct questions and comments to editor@higher-edge.com