

# OVERSEAS OVERWHELMED

HIGHER  
EDGE

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## LET'S GO CANADA

### *CBIE Hopeful on Off-Campus Work Program*

An official with the Canadian Bureau for International Education says her group expects a Liberal initiative—a federal-provincial program allowing foreign students in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Manitoba and Ontario to work off-campus—to survive Monday's Tory victory.

"We will be contacting our provincial colleagues to ensure this stays on track," Jennifer Humphries, the CBIE's vice-president for memberships and scholarships, told *Overseas Overwhelmed*. "Off-campus employment is built on bilateral agreements and the provinces are all keen, so it should appeal to the new government, which consistently talks about working with the provinces."

Parliament was dissolved before the project's \$7.5-million budget could be approved.

International students are already allowed to work off-campus in Manitoba, Quebec (outside of Montreal and Quebec City) and New Brunswick, but only under the terms of a pilot project.

## OVER THE COUNTER

### *Competition from Asian Schools to Intensify: UK Official*

European schools shouldn't count on Asia as an automatic source of MBA students in coming years, the CEO of Britain's Association of Business Schools said recently.

While the booming economies of China, India and other countries are likely to continue to fuel a sharp demand in Asia for MBAs, students may not always opt to study in Europe, said Jonathan Slack. Both China and India want more of their own students to study at home, and as a result, more schools in both countries are offering MBAs—at a cheaper price than their European counterparts.

Source: "European Business Schools Prepare for Revolution," *Financial Times*, December 5, 2005 ([http://news.ft.com/cms/s/09fe37d4-6325-11da-be11-0000779e2340,dwp\\_uuid=b29636b0-20ee-11d8-81c6-0820abe49a01.html](http://news.ft.com/cms/s/09fe37d4-6325-11da-be11-0000779e2340,dwp_uuid=b29636b0-20ee-11d8-81c6-0820abe49a01.html))

## ABROAD PERSPECTIVE

### *Visa Fees Keeping Chinese Students From UK: Report*

The number of Chinese students accepted at UK universities has taken a steep dive—likely because of a recent increase in visa fees, a British newspaper reports.

UK universities accepted 4,885 students from China in 2005—22.8 per cent fewer than in the previous year, a recent survey from the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service reported. Student visa fees, which rose last July from £ 36 to £ 85, are thought to have been a factor, according to *The Times* of London.

Nevertheless, the total number of foreign acceptances increased by 4.3 per cent, to 45,125. Acceptances from some countries increased dramatically: Poland (107.2 per cent); Nigeria (60.9 per cent—at 3,097 now the UK's highest source of overseas students); and Germany (16.2 per cent), for example.

Sources: "Record Numbers Go to College," *The Times*, January 19, 2006 (<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,2-1995823,00.html>); "Final Figures for 2005 Entry up by 7.4%" (UCAS news release), 19 January 2006 (<http://www.ucas.ac.uk/new/press/news190106.html>)

## GLOBE TIPPING

### *Dubai "Seller's Market" for Hotel Lodging*

Combine the world's hottest new tourist destination with booming big business and you get very large hotel price tags. Dubai's average daily room rate, at \$204.24, is second only to that of Paris at \$230.77, according to a recent report.

The Higher-Edge office in Dubai's Knowledge Village reports booking standard five-star hotel rooms for clients at \$600 (CAD) per night. "It's a seller's market," says Higher-Edge Managing Director Mel Broitman. "If you don't give a 100-per-cent payment guarantee for a booking, many hotels just tell you to go away. You have to be prepared to spend to do business here."

**Correction:** Only one of the Sept. 11, hijackers entered the U.S. on a student visa. Incorrect information appeared in the Jan. 18, 2006 edition of *Not-So-Foreign*.