

OVERSEAS OVERWHELMED

HIGHER
EDGE

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LET'S GO CANADA

Fee Hikes Feared in Manitoba

Another Canadian university is planning on raising its fees for international students—and a students' group believes increases are in the works at other schools as well.

Brandon University is proposing a 25-per-cent increase on the fees it will charge next year for foreign students—who already pay more than twice as much as their Canadian classmates. Meanwhile, the Canadian Federation of Students says it has learned the University of Manitoba and the University of Winnipeg are planning similarly dramatic tuition increases.

A tuition freeze now in place in Manitoba universities doesn't apply to international students.

Dalhousie University's board of governors voted this month in favour of a series of fee increases, including an 8.9-per-cent increase for foreign undergraduates.

Sources: "[BU Fee Hikes Ripped](#)," *The Brandon Sun*, April 26, 2006; April 25, 2006 news release on the Canadian Federation of Students [web site](#)

ABROAD PERSPECTIVE

Poland Drawing More Foreign Students

The two years since Poland's accession to the European Union have seen a considerable increase in its exports of university education, an official with Warsaw University said recently. The country has been drawing more exchange students, many of them from other European countries, but also more students from poorer countries, attracted largely by the prospect of relatively low-priced professional degrees. There are now 8,000 foreign students in Poland, and the number is said to be climbing steadily.

Source: "[Foreign Students Flock to Polish Universities](#)," Radio Polonia, April 4, 2006

OVER THE COUNTER

U.K. Launches Bid to Draw 100,000 Students in 5 Years

British Prime Minister Tony Blair announced last week the second phase of his Initiative for International Education—a project aimed at attracting 100,000 extra students from overseas by 2011. The initiative's first phase, launched in 1999, wildly exceeded expectations. It had a goal of bringing in 50,000 more higher education students over the next six years; by 2005, 93,000 more had come to study in Britain.

Mr. Blair also officially launched another five-year program last week—the U.K.-India Education Research Initiative, aimed at improving research collaboration between the two countries. Total funding for the two programs—to be contributed by the British government, the British Council, schools and private businesses—is projected to total more than £27 million over the next two years, of which £7.5 million will go toward the U.K.-India initiative.

Sources: "[Build Partnerships Overseas, Blair Tells Universities](#)," *Guardian*, April 18, 2006; "[Overseas Students Plans Unveiled](#)," BBC News, April 18, 2006

GLOBE TIPPING

Flying From the U.S.? Prepare to Be "Puffed"

The U.S. Transportation Security Administration is adding another layer of security to American airports. It has installed a set of new devices—Explosive Detection Trace Portals, nicknamed "puffers"—at 25 airports nationwide, and is planning to equip most of the America's major airports by the end of 2006.

Passengers walk into the closet-like devices and are subjected to 13 puffs of air issuing from jets built into the device. The puffs are intended to stir up traces of hazardous materials—chemicals that could be used to make bombs, for example—from the passenger's body or clothing. The device analyzes the air produced by the puffs and gives the passenger a green or red light.

Source: "[New Airport Security Screening Device Gives Passengers a "Puff"](#)," ABC News, April 25, 2006