

# OVERSEAS OVERWHELMED

HIGHER  
EDGE

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## LET'S GO CANADA

### *More Student Work Reforms on the Way: U of T Official*

With a long-awaited initiative allowing international students to work off-campus now in place, it probably won't be long before Ottawa brings in other changes loosening up work requirements for foreign students in Canada, says a member of the CBIE's Immigration Advisory Committee.

Ben Yang, who is also director of the University of Toronto's International Student Centre, told *Overseas, Overwhelmed* this week that there's "absolutely" reason to hope Ottawa will have another key reform in place before this time next year: the waiving of the requirement that international students get job offers related to their fields of study in order to apply for post-graduation work permits. Citizenship and Immigration Canada is interested in making this change, he said. Although Ottawa has no concrete timeline in place for it, it will not likely be that complicated as it requires only regulatory rather than legislative changes.

Canada's Citizenship and Immigration minister announced last week a new measure allowing international students to work off-campus, effective immediately.

Source: for information on the off-campus work initiative, see [the "What's New" page](#) on the Canadian Citizenship and Immigration web site

## ABROAD PERSPECTIVE

### *U.S. Enjoys South Korean Boom*

The number of South Koreans studying in the U.S. reached 86,626 last September—an 18-per-cent increase over the 73,272 recorded in December, 2004, according to statistics recently released by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. South Korea remains the number-one source of foreign students in America, followed by India (77,220) and China (59,343).

Sources: "[Koreans Top List of Foreign College Students in US](#)," *The Korea Times*, April 26, 2006 and [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement web site](#)

## OVER THE COUNTER

### *Russian Racists Stand in the Way of Country's Education Exports*

Earlier this year, Russian President Vladimir Putin told members of the country's State Council on Education he wanted to see Russia's education exports increased. More Russian schools should set up shop overseas, he said, and it should be made easier for foreign students and professors to attend Russian colleges and universities.

However, Russia faces a big hurdle in projecting a welcoming image of itself to international students, given recent, widely-publicized attacks against foreign students in the country. In one of these of these, Anjar Kishore-Kumar, an Indian medical student living in St. Petersburg, was stabbed in the throat by two skinheads shouting racist insults at him. Earlier that same month, Samba Lampsar Sall, a 28-year-old Senegalese student, was fatally shot by a man armed with a swastika-emblazoned shotgun. According to Sova, a Russian non-governmental organization, racist attacks in the country—many of them against students and other foreigners—have resulted in the deaths of seven people and injuries to 79—and some estimate the real number to be considerably higher.

Sources: "[Foreign Students Should Be Given Greater Access to Russian Education – Putin](#)," Interfax, March 24, 2006; "[Indian Student Latest Street Violence Victim](#)," *The St. Petersburg Times*, April 21, 2006; "[Swastika Vigilantes Kill Foreign Students to Keep Their City 'Clean'](#)," *Times Online*, April 8, 2006

## GLOBE TIPPING

### *You Speak Singlish, Is It?*

If you're planning on travelling to Singapore, you might want to brush up on your "Singlish"—a kind of pidgin English widely spoken by taxi drivers and other service people you might come across. Singlish bears the imprint of a number of other tongues, including Indian English, Baba Malay, and southern Chinese dialects. [Talking Cock](#), a Singaporean satirical web site, is laced with Singlish and even has a "Coxford Singlish Dictionary."