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MARKET NEWS BULLETIN

27 January – 9 February 2017

Compiled by Nastja Pusic

Contents

Summary of Global HE News

- [UK](#)
- [USA and Canada](#)
- [International](#)
- [Asia](#)
- [Australia and New Zealand](#)

EU student applications to UK down 7% after Brexit vote (2 February)

By: John Morgan: THE: 2 February 2017

Applications from European Union students to study at UK universities have fallen by 7 per cent following the nation's Brexit vote, part of an overall 5 per cent decline in applications from all students.

Ucas figures published on 2 February show that to date a total of 564,190 people have applied for full-time undergraduate study at UK higher education institutions for 2017, a decrease of 5 per cent compared with the same point last year.

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Changes and trends in the student population (9 February)

By: HESA staff: HESA: 9 February 2017

Two HESA publications released: *Students in Higher Education 2015/16* and *Higher Education Statistics for the United Kingdom – Student and qualifiers data 2015/16*.

The figures released today include information on the personal characteristics and study activities of students in the UK. Comparing today's release with earlier figures reveals changes in both the demographic makeup of the student population, and the types of courses being studied.

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Ireland announces 24-month “stay back option” for international postgraduates (8 February)

By: ICEF staff monitor: ICEF Monitor: 8 February 2017

- *Non-EU/EEA students completing advanced degrees in Ireland may now stay for up to 24 months in order to seek employment and/or apply for a further work permit or green card*
- *This new provision applies to students completing masters or doctoral qualifications granted by a recognised Irish awarding body*

The Irish government has extended the period during which foreign graduates of masters and doctoral programmes may remain and work in the country after their studies. Under Ireland's [Third Level Graduate Scheme](#), international students completing advanced degrees may stay in Ireland to seek employment, work for up to 40 hours per week, and/or apply for a further work permit or green card.

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University officials and courts push back on US travel ban (8 February)

By: ICEF monitor staff: ICEG Monitor: 8 February 2017

- *The Trump administration's travel ban on citizens from seven Muslim-majority countries has been suspended by court order*
- *The matter remains before the courts currently and is expected to eventually progress to the US Supreme Court*
- *In the meantime, the effects of the ban have already been profound with 60,000 or more visas cancelled and with considerable uncertainty resulting for current and prospective students, as well as visiting scholars, from affected countries*
- *US educators have been quick to speak out against the ban but many worry that its effects will be long lasting, particularly in terms of international student recruitment from and scholarly exchange with Muslim-majority countries*

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Stop Panicking: H-1B Visa Reform May Keep More Bright Foreign Minds In The U.S. (4 February)

By: Xiang Wang: Forbes: 4 February 2017

United States President Donald Trump's "America First" protectionist agenda may soon shake up many people's American dream.

The H-1B visa—the most common way to bring high-skilled foreign workers to the U.S.—is now under intense scrutiny for “stealing” and “replacing” American jobs and workers. With the intention of ushering in bright minds in areas where the U.S. suffers from a shortage of labor supply, American firms have used the program to hire foreign talents or keep American-educated international students in the U.S. after graduation since 1990.

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European graduate enrolment in US rises 8 per cent (9 February)

By: Ellie Bothwell: THE: 9 February 2017

But data show applications and enrolments from India and Saudi Arabia have plummeted.

The number of European graduate students enrolling at US universities rose by 8 per cent in the year to autumn 2016, the largest increase in at least the past five years, according to [new data](#) from the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS).

Enrolments from Europe had declined by 4 per cent between 2014 and 2015, and increased only by between 1 and 3 per cent the previous three years. CGS did not collect data on Europe before 2012.

	Autumn 2012 to autumn 2013	Autumn 2013 to autumn 2014	Autumn 2014 to autumn 2015	Autumn 2015 to autumn 2016
Total	2%	10%	3%	1%
Asia			2%	2%
<i>China</i>	-3%	-1%	0%	4%
<i>India</i>	22%	33%	10%	-1%
<i>South Korea</i>	-15%	-5%	4%	-5%
<i>Taiwan</i>	-13%	0%	-1%	1%
Europe	-2%	3%	-5%	0%
Latin America and Caribbean			-1%	-3%
<i>Brazil</i>	25%	61%	-13%	-11%
<i>Mexico</i>	-8%	1%	9%	2%
Middle East and North Africa			2%	-5%
<i>Saudi Arabia</i>			8%	-20%
Canada	-5%	1%	3%	-12%
Oceania			4%	-11%
Sub- Saharan Africa			7%	-9%

Source: 2016 CGS International Graduate Admissions Survey

New CanadaVisa Study Hub for International Students and Graduates in Canada (1 February)

By: CIC News staff: CIC News: 1 February 2017

The [CanadaVisa Study Hub](#) is a new online portal for [international students in Canada](#) and recent graduates working on a [Post-Graduation Work Permit \(PGWP\)](#). The Study Hub links members with a wide range of tools and resources to help them make the most of their time in Canada, and start their pathway to permanent residence. Study Hub members also get exclusive access to a monthly scholarship worth \$2,500!

International students and graduates are widely recognized as among the most desirable future immigrants. Former Minister of Immigration John McCallum once called them the “cream of the crop, in terms of future Canadians.” International graduates of Canadian institutions have already spent time in Canada, establishing roots and integrating into their local community.

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Canada: BC's new website targets int'l HS students (6 February)

By: Beckie Smith: Pie News: 6 February 2017

British Columbia's government has launched an online “one-stop shop” with information and resources for prospective international high school students on how to study in the province, and how to make the most of their experience when they get there.

The website, www.BCforHighSchool.gov.bc.ca, shares information on the Canadian education system; how to enrol in a BC school and obtain a Canadian study permit; living with a host family; and postsecondary opportunities for students that want to stay in the province to study after high school.

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International

[Back to top](#)

Study.EU now directly connects international students with universities in Europe (7 February)

By: Administrator: African Herald Express: 7 February 2017

Study.EU, the gateway to universities in Europe, has launched its new direct-connect feature. Students can now conveniently request information packages for 5,500 study programmes at 500 European universities. A convenient and practical solution for students. The database of Study.EU contains information about 5,500 Bachelor, Master and PhD programmes in Europe. Students can use Study.EU to search for study options that fit their needs. They can filter by academic level, discipline, country, duration, tuition fee and other criteria. The database includes study options in the UK, Germany, France and 10 other countries.

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Asia

[Back to top](#)

India demonetisation policy continuing to affect study abroad (31 January)

By: Matthew Knott: Study Travel Magazine: 31 January 2017

India's recently introduced demonetisation policy, which replaced 500-rupee notes and removed 1,000-rupee notes from circulation, is continuing to cause some disruption for the study abroad industry, according to Indian agents, but the impact appears to be weakening.

The policy, which was introduced with immediate effect by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a televised address on November 8, gave a deadline of the end of last year to exchange the old 500-rupee notes. Initial maximum daily limits for banks to exchange money caused delays in student loan processing for international students.

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Australia and New Zealand

[Back to top](#)

Aus: students lose up to A\$1m to fraudulent agency (1 February)

By: Beckie Smith: Pie News: 1 February 2017

Australia's [Overseas Student Ombudsman](#) has issued an advisory to prospective international students to use the services of only education agencies which are endorsed by education providers, after it emerged that a Brisbane-based agency may have scammed students out of up to A\$1m.

Tu Futuro en Australia Pty, which provided agency services to students mostly in South America, is thought to have disappeared with the money it was paid by prospective international students for tuition and accommodation at the end of last year.

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Education exports hit record high of nearly US\$17 billion (3 February)

By: Geoff Maslen: University World News: 3 February 2017

Export earnings from selling Australian higher education to foreign students reached a record high of nearly A\$22 billion (US\$16.8 billion) in 2016 – an astonishing 17% increase on the total for the previous year and the biggest annual growth rate since 2010.

Educating international students continues to be Australia's third largest export earner, behind only iron ore and coal.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson said Australia's global outlook and excellent reputation for the quality of education and research in the nation's universities were key factors in the growth.

"The outstanding education that our universities provide to some of the best and brightest students from right around the world is a vital part of Australia's economy," Robinson said.

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New Zealand: Economic impact of international education up 50% since 2014 (1 February)

By: ICEF monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 1 February 2017

- *Spending by international students in New Zealand has increased by just over 50% over the last two years to reach NZ\$4.04 billion in 2015/16*
- *The sector now supports about 32,000 jobs throughout New Zealand, and is the country's fourth-largest export category*
- *The dramatic growth in economic impact has been driven by two years of double-digit enrolment growth, but also by rising living costs*

A recent economic impact study commissioned by [Education New Zealand](#) reveals a big jump in international student spending in New Zealand over the last two years. The report, produced by Infometrics and the National Research Bureau, shows [the value of international education rose to NZ\\$4.28 billion in 2015/16](#) (US\$3.1 billion).

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New Zealand publishes 2016 visa approval rates (7 February)

By: Matthew Knott: Study Travel Magazine: 7 February 2017

Immigration New Zealand (INZ) has published the 2016 student visa approval rates by recruitment country, with several Asian markets such as India, Nepal and Bangladesh posting less than a fifty per cent success ratio.

The data is based on offshore applications for fee-paying and scholarship students and is published annually by INZ so that educators and agents can determine which nationalities fall below the 80 per cent success threshold and therefore require an internationally recognised English language exam with their student visa applications.

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