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MARKET NEWS BULLETIN

19 May – 1 June 2017

Compiled by Nastja Pusic

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UK

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Conservatives will toughen visa rules for students (19 May)

By: Brendan O'Malley: University World News: 19 May

The Conservative Party of Prime Minister Theresa May has pledged to toughen visa requirements for international students and raise the level of health surcharge they must pay, as part of the continuing effort to “bear down on immigration from outside the European Union”.

In their manifesto, launched on Thursday, the Conservatives, who have a substantial lead in opinion polls, say they will toughen the visa requirements for students, to “make sure that we maintain high standards”.

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Fertile ground for US-UK HE partnerships, potential for deeper ties (26 May)

By: Natalie Marsh: The Pie News: 26 May 2017

Similarities between the US and the UK's higher education environments create fertile ground for institutional collaboration, which many universities to take their first forays into cross-border partnerships before venturing into other markets, it has emerged from a report from the [American Council of Education](#).

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English UK releases first quarterly data update (31 May)

By: Matthew Knott: ST Magazine: 31 May 2017

Language school association English UK has released the first data report from its new Quarterly Intelligence Cohort (QUIC) scheme, showing a dominance of General English programmes in the first quarter of the year and a majority of student weeks booked via agents.

The first QUIC report, processed by StudentMarketing, includes data from 124 members, and replaces **English UK**'s former core group statistics scheme

Chart 4

Student weeks by age group and source country (top 10 markets)



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USA and Canada

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New study explores US educators' views on pathway partnerships (30 May)

By: ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 30 May 2017

- A survey of US educators finds a strong interest in building international enrolment and, for some, a growing openness to partnering with third-party providers
- Educators reported that the main reasons for considering such a partnership were to boost international student numbers, access the recruitment network of the pathway partner, and leverage the expertise of the provider
- Survey respondents also noted concerns around academic standards and contract terms as the leading factors that would discourage US institutions from pursuing such a partnership

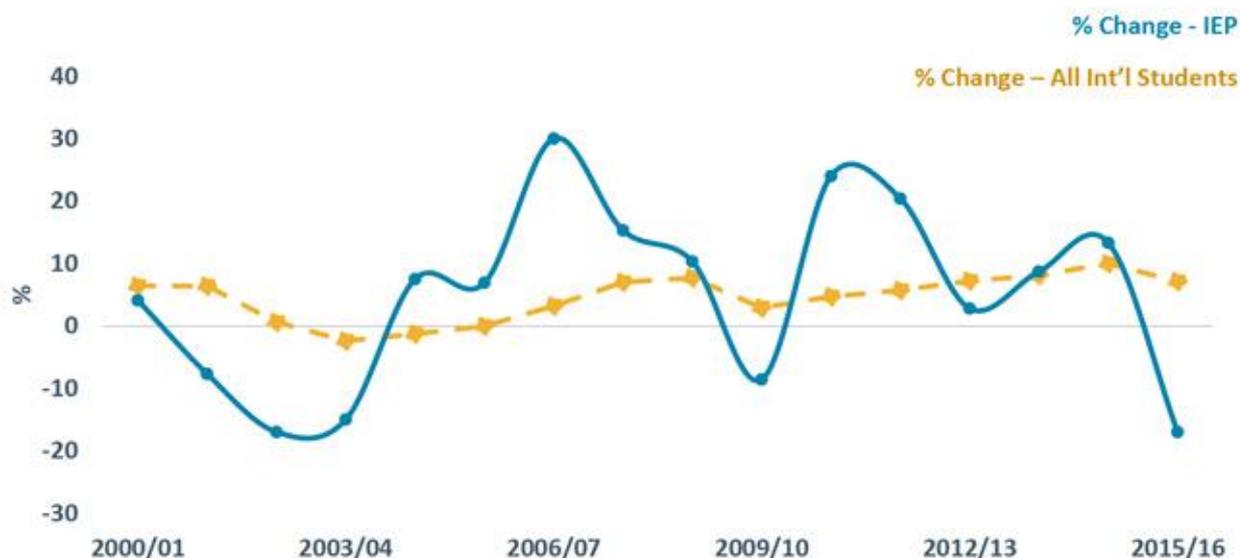
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US ELT enrolment down sharply in 2016 (31 May)

By: ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 31 May 2017

- The latest survey of Intensive English Programmes in the US finds that student numbers declined 19% in 2016, and student weeks by 23%
- The immediate factors behind the decline are sharp decreases in government-sponsored students from Saudi Arabia and Brazil

- *Language programme providers in the US also cite the current political and policy environment in the country, as well as increasing competition and currency exchange fluctuations, as some of the key reasons behind the downward trend*



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California to Limit Foreign University Students (20 May)

By: Bruce Alpert: Voa News: 20 May 2017

California state universities, one of the largest higher-education networks in the U.S., will limit the number of undergraduates they accept from outside the state, including foreign students, beginning later this year.

[A new policy takes effect at the beginning of the 2017-2018 academic year](#) and will limit enrollment of non-California residents to 18 percent of the student population at five University of California campuses: Santa Barbara, Davis, Santa Cruz, Riverside and Merced.

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American Universities are No. 1 no more; 10 reasons why students are opting for Canadian Universities (26 May)

By: Gurinder Singh Bhatti: The Plunge Daily: 26 May 2017

In the past decade, the number of students planning to complete their higher education abroad has increased manifold in developing countries like India. Driven by better access to basic education facilities and loan processes, many individuals, especially those from middle class households, can now consider to study overseas, something which would have seemed like a distant dream even few years back.

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More and more middle-class students from China, India go to Canadian universities (1 June)

By: Study International staff: Study International: 1 June 2017

Canada is outpacing other countries in taking in post-secondary students into its higher education institutions, fuelled by a successful government strategy and a growing middle class in emerging markets, new [research](#) by RBC Economics reveals.

While the North American country still only takes in a fraction of the numbers heading to firm favourites like the United States, United Kingdom and Australia, the international student cohort in Canadian universities has grown 130 percent compared to nearly a decade ago. The report traces this meteoric rise to a time even before US President Donald Trump's travel ban spooked prospective students into heading north instead.

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International

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International higher education in Facts and Figures 2017 (25 May)

By: Universities UK staff: Universities UK: 25 May 2017

This annual publication gives a data snapshot of UK higher education and internationalisation. It examines international students choosing the UK; where they come from and their choices; and student satisfaction. Then it moves on to the UK sector's provision for students who want to study outside the UK; UK student mobility; international staff and research collaborations; and the economic benefit of international higher education.

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Asia

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China's higher education megaproject (26 May)

By: Catherine Montgomery: University World News: 26 May 2017

The announcement that Peking University will spend £9 million (US\$11.7 million) on opening a business school in Oxford early next year has attracted a great deal of attention in the UK media as well as in education. It may be the fact that Peking has chosen the setting of Oxford for this new higher education venture that has begun to open people's eyes to the developing influence of China.

There may be a sense that China is reaching into the heart of the United Kingdom's most prestigious higher education institution and into what is quintessentially English. Ironically, many people have assumed that this enterprise is happening in partnership with the University of Oxford, but in fact this is not the case.

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Scholarships for students seeking higher education in Japan (19 May)

By: Outlook India staff: Outlook India: 19 May 2017

As part of the initiative that seeks to increase the number of foreign students in Japanese educational institutes, the country's government is offering scholarships of Rs 59 lakhs and Rs 42 lakhs for undergraduate and post-graduate students respectively.

It is good news for students aspiring to pursue higher **education** in **Japan**, with the **Japanese government** offering scholarships for Indian students traveling to the island country.

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Government to ease rules on foreign investment in HE (25 May)

By: Yojana Sharma: University World News: 25 May 2017

A new government decree to ease the way for foreign investment in education in Vietnam, likely to be approved by the country's leadership as early as June, will streamline procedures and reduce bureaucracy for setting up foreign branch campuses in the country.

The new decree will replace Decree Number 73 issued during 2012 which relates to foreign investment and collaboration in higher education. The new decree will increase the minimum investment capital to set up a foreign-backed university, from VND300 billion (US\$13 million) under Decree 73 to a minimum of VND1 trillion or approximately US\$45 million, excluding the land value for university construction.

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Australia and New Zealand

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International student numbers up 15% on last year (26 May)

By: University World News staff: University World News: 26 May 2017

Australia has bolstered its popularity as a world class education destination with [new data](#) showing international student numbers jumped up by 15% in the first three months of this year compared to 2016.

Minister for Education and Training Simon Birmingham said the surging international student numbers came on top of growth of around 10.5% since the Coalition government came to power in 2013.

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Universities too heavily reliant on foreign students (31 May)

By: Bob Birrell: University World News: 31 May 2017

Of the more than 520,000 international students enrolled in Australian universities, colleges and schools this year, nearly one in three are from China. Of these, more than 50,000 are enrolled in the nation's universities.

Foreign students now contribute more than AU\$5 billion (US\$3.7 billion) annually to university incomes, which amounted to AU\$28 billion in 2015.

Among the top institutions, the University of Sydney generated AU\$479 million from foreign student fees out of a total budget of AU\$2 billion that year while Melbourne University's earnings amounted to AU\$526 million in a total of AU\$2.1billion.

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