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India retreats from Australian study

The Age
July 31 2009

AUSTRALIA'S elite universities are set to pay a high price for the foreign student crisis, as middle-class Indian parents concerned for the safety of their children opt for universities in Britain, New Zealand and North America instead of Australia.

Two months of media reports about attacks on young Indians and allegations of racism in Australian suburbs are having a serious impact, say Indian education agents.

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/india-retreats-from-australian-study-20090730-e31k.html>

Overseas students still faithful, say universities

The Brisbane Times
July 31 2009

Queensland universities have dismissed claims they face a grim future, with negative headlines deterring international students from studying in Australia for fear of shonky operators and racist attacks.

However, a representative body for the international education sector, says the nation requires a better integrated, nation-wide approach to counteract the issues which have led to students' concerns.

Full article:

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/overseas-students-still-faithful-say-universities-20090730-e2x8.html>

Students offered sterling deals in Canada

The Sydney Morning Herald
July 31 2009

MIGRATION agents surrounded international students leaving a meeting yesterday about the unexpected closure of their Sydney college, making offers to find them better deals overseas.

Full article:

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/students-offered-sterling-deals-in-canada-20090730-e32y.html>

Millions to bail out stranded students

The Sydney Morning Herald
July 31 2009

AUSTRALIA'S third largest export, international education, is operating without insurance because no one is willing to underwrite the fund set up by the Government to protect it.

In the latest reporting period, the Educational Services for Overseas Students Assurance Fund, which guarantees student fees, held just over \$3 million and achieved a surplus of only \$421,200 – in an industry worth \$15.5 billion.

Full article:

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/millions-to-bail-out-stranded-students-20090730-e32s.html>

Confucius Institute for Australia

ABC Radio Australia
July 30 2009

At a time when diplomatic relations between Australia and China have been strained by the arrest of Australian mining executive Sten Hu, closer ties are being forged on a tertiary level. A new Confucius Institute has been launched at the University of New South Wales the latest in a network of 300 Confucius Institutes worldwide that focus on bi-lateral cultural understanding and professional cooperation.

Presenter: Karon Snowdon

Speakers: Jin Wei is; Director of the Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

<http://www.radioaustralia.net.au/asiapac/stories/200907/s2641461.htm>

Speech - 13th Annual News Ltd Education Forum - Sydney

Transcript: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
July 29 2009

It is said 'fortune favours the brave'.

If that saying is true then I expect fortune to smile upon me as a reward for my bravery in fronting up to the 13th Annual News Limited Education Forum.

I know some of you will have been watching the lively debate between the Government and The Australian about Building the Education Revolution and some of the more colourful claims about it.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Speeches/Pages/Article_090730_093656.aspx

The need for moral wisdom

University World News
July 26 2009

The dependence on full-fee international students by Australian universities has made a big difference. Competing for foreign students forced universities to become more student focused. But, to quote the old stage adage, you ain't seen nothing yet. Following the recommendations of the Bradley review, we are about to enter a whole new era in Australian higher education, an era in which competition will become more intense than ever. Let me explain why.

Full article:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090724101520645>

New agent register for overseas students

ABC News
July 27 2009

Private colleges are setting up a new agents' register to weed out unscrupulous agents offering services to international students.

Full article:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/07/27/2637551.htm>

Calls for watchdog for foreign students

WA Today
July 28 2009

The federal government vows it won't tolerate abuses of the system governing the education of foreign students in Australia.

Full article:

<http://www.watoday.com.au/breaking-news-national/calls-for-watchdog-for-foreign-students-20090728-dydz.html>

Fear of drop in Indian students

The Age
July 30 2009

MELBOURNE'S educational institutions are bracing for a decrease in students from India, as three of them report declining applications following assaults on overseas pupils.

RMIT and Victoria University yesterday reported early signs of a drop in demand. Both universities attributed the decline to negative Indian media reports about student safety in Australia.

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/education/fear-of-drop-in-indian-students-20090729-elkg.html>

Uni head predicts decrease in Indian student enrolments

ABC News
July 29 2009

Melbourne University vice-chancellor Glyn Davis says he is expecting a dramatic fall in the number of Indian students enrolling in education courses in Australia.

Full article:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/07/29/2640158.htm?section=justin>

College folds, leaving hundreds in lurch

Sydney Morning Herald
July 29 2009

JULIA GILLARD failed to act on direct appeals to address complaints about a Sydney training college, which went into voluntary administration and left hundreds of students in limbo yesterday.

Up to 600 people, mostly international students, arrived yesterday morning to find the Sydney campuses of Sterling College shut down. All 35 college staff who taught IT, community welfare, cooking and language courses had been sacked.

Full article:

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/college-folds-leaving-hundreds-in-lurch-20090728-e06q.html>

Education debacle to cost us badly

The Australian
July 29 2009

AUSTRALIA risks killing the goose that laid the golden egg. By failing to act decisively to protect the welfare and interests of overseas students, federal and state education authorities have allowed a debacle in the vocational training sector to tarnish the entire university system.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25850835-5016677,00.html>

'Desperate' students demand education changes

ABC News
July 29 2009

As the reputation of Australia's overseas education sector continues to take a pounding, overseas students are calling on the Federal Government to fix what they say is a dishonest system.

The abrupt closure of a private college in Sydney yesterday came close on the heels of fresh controversy over the treatment of Indian students in Australia.

Full article:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/07/29/2639291.htm?section=justin>

Battered Melbourne Uni slashes 220 jobs

The Age
July 29 2009

MELBOURNE University will slash 220 full-time academic and administrative staff because its financial position has taken a battering in the economic crisis.

In an email to staff, vice-chancellor Glyn Davis said the crisis had devastated investment returns and a so-called "economic response program" would result in 50 academic and 50 administrative staff taking voluntary redundancies.

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/education/battered-melbourne-uni-slashes-220-jobs-20090728-e075.html>

International students

ABC Radio National interview transcript: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
July 29 2009

FRAN KELLY: The collapse of a private vocational college in Sydney yesterday has left hundreds of students and some teachers in the lurch. It's also raised questions about the reliability of regulation for vocational training courses for foreign students in this country. Sterling College in Sydney went into administration yesterday - you might have seen that on the news. Two weeks ago, a large private college in Melbourne catering to mostly international students also closed its doors. The collapses come as the sector is mired in allegations of student exploitation, dodgy courses and migration fraud, a litany of series complaints outlined on ABC TV on Monday night.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Transcripts/Pages/Article_090729_092324.aspx

International Students Invited to Have Their Say at Round Table

Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
July 27 2009

The Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, today called for expressions of interest from international students to be part of an International Student Round Table that will take place in Canberra on the 14th-15th of September this year.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090727_180358.aspx

New student accommodation on UWS Parramatta campus

StreetCorner.com.au
July 23 2009

University of Western Sydney Vice-Chancellor, Professor Janice Reid AM, will officially open the University's \$22 million, 343 bed student apartment complex on Thursday.

Developed and operated by leading student accommodation provider Campus Living Villages, in partnership with UWS, the new facility is the first on the Parramatta campus.

Full article:
<http://www.streetcorner.com.au/news/showPost.cfm?bid=11362&mycomm=WC>

Hopes for national university shattered

Sydney Morning Herald
July 21 2009

THE dream of a national university is over after a proposed merger between Southern Cross and Charles Sturt universities collapsed.

The national university was promoted as a way to serve regional and rural Australia better and increase participation rates in higher education from these areas, particularly students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Full article:
<http://www.smh.com.au/national/hopes-for-national-university-shattered-20090720-dqk.html>

NZ says free trade deal with China benefits education

China Daily
July 18 2009

New Zealand's position as the first Western country to sign a free trade agreement with China is about to pay off, said a New Zealand education expert on Saturday.

Full article:
http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2009-07/18/content_8445265.htm

Australia: Has the export education bubble burst?

University World News
July 19 2009

Changes to Australia's immigration rules affecting foreign students who apply for permanent residency could cause a collapse in the booming export education market. The tighter restrictions are likely to have a profound impact on the number of students from India and China whose main purpose in coming to Australia is to obtain permanent residency. Take that lure away and the main reason why tens of thousands are prepared to outlay up to \$20,000 (US\$16,000) every year disappears.

Full article:
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20090717092635418>

We could lose foreign students: academic

Sydney Morning Herald
July 20 2009

AUSTRALIA risks squandering its \$15.5 billion higher education export industry within 10 years, unless the Federal Government takes urgent action, says the vice-chancellor of Sydney University, Michael Spence.

Full article:

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/we-could-lose-foreign-students-academic-20090719-dpl4.html>

Slackness to cost \$40,000 per year

Stuff.co.nz - New Zealand
July 18 2009

Slack academics at Canterbury University will cost their colleges \$40,000 a year from 2012.

Vice-Chancellor Rod Carr has sent an email to staff saying underperforming colleges in the next Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF) round will be fined \$40,000 a year or \$200,000 over five years until the next round.

Full article:

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/education/2604973/Slackness-to-cost-40-000-per-year>

Time to bridge business gap with Chinese community

New Zealand Herald
July 17 2009

The Auckland business community is failing to maximise the economic potential of the Chinese community which has become an important part of the city's retail landscape and provides a link to trade with Asia, a study found.

The Asia New Zealand report, entitled Chinese Businesses and the Transformation of Auckland, will be one of the papers discussed at the Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas Conference at the University of Auckland Business School tomorrow.

Full article:

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=3&objectid=10584930

Close the back door

The Australian
July 17 2009

Students must not exploit immigration loopholes

THE integrity of Australia's immigration system is in jeopardy as evidence emerges of potential flaws in the rules governing overseas students. Overseas students contribute billions of dollars to our higher education sector, not to mention the benefits that flow from closer cultural and educational engagement with other countries, particularly our Asian neighbours. Despite recent highly publicised incidents of violence, they are overwhelmingly welcomed by Australians. Yet there is growing evidence.....

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25792964-16741,00.html>

Australians Open U.S. Med School

InsideHigherEd.com
July 16 2009

To produce more physicians for Louisiana, a major academic medical center has joined up with a medical school down under.

The University of Queensland School of Medicine, in Australia, has opened a clinical school in New Orleans in cooperation with Louisiana's Ochsner Health System. Under the arrangement, students will travel to Brisbane for the first two years of medical school, then return to the United States to complete their third- and fourth-year clinical training at Queensland's new outpost at Ochsner. Those enrolled in the collaborative program will graduate with an Australian medical degree, a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), which is equivalent to an M.D., from Queensland.

Full article:

<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/07/16/queensland>

CQU in student number crisis

The Australian
July 15 2009

CENTRAL Queensland University, once the most aggressive player in the degrees for visas market, is running out of cash and has little ability to withstand further blows to its high-risk business model, an official report warns.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25782678-12332,00.html>

UC to double numbers in decade

The Canberra Times
July 14 2009

The University of Canberra plans to double its student numbers to 16,000 within the next decade, taking full advantage of new higher education deregulation introduced by the Rudd Government. But the Australian National University will resist similar growth, instead focusing on its research agenda and maintaining its "unique character".

Full article:

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/news/local/news/general/uc-to-double-numbers-in-decade/1566981.aspx>

Agents prey on foreign students

The Australian
July 14 2009

LURED by the high commissions offered by private colleges in Australia, unscrupulous education agents in India are using false promises of work and residency to funnel students into courses that in some cases they don't want to do.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25778887-12332,00.html>

Indian student industry a study in shams and scams

The Australian
July 14 2009

AUSTRALIA'S lust for high-dollar Indian students has led to a thriving black market in sham marriages, forged English language exams and bogus courses, and turned a once-respected international education sector into a recognised immigration racket.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25778649-12332,00.html>

Audit blitz hits 'dodgy' colleges

The Age
July 14 2009

FORENSIC auditors could be used in the first major crackdown on corrupt training colleges for overseas students in Melbourne.

The colleges are suspected of exploiting students, migration fraud and breaches of education law.

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/audit-blitz-hits-dodgy-colleges-20090713-ditd.html>

Pacific Island student numbers surge

Stuff.co.nz - New Zealand
July 14 2009

A surge in Pacific Island students is helping drive a jump in tertiary enrolments.

A Ministry of Education report reveals a 14 per cent increase in male Pacific Island student enrolments in April compared with last year. There was a 12 per cent rise in female Pacific Island students.

Full article:

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/education/2590264/Pacific-Island-student-numbers-surge>

Oxford University 'could reject state funding for higher fees'

The Telegraph - UK
July 12 2009

Oxford University could reject state funding if it charges higher fees and can persuade wealthy former students to donate more to fill its coffers, its outgoing vice-chancellor has said.

The move would reduce Government control over the elite institution, giving it greater choice over the students it admits and allowing it to set its own tuition fees.

Full article:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/5810543/Oxford-University-could-reject-state-funding-for-higher-fees.html>

Bridging the gap at university

Stuff.co.nz - New Zealand
July 10 2009

OPINION: It was Victoria University's delight to host Pita Sharples, Maori affairs minister and associate education minister, as guest speaker at its Matariki dinner, a celebration to honour Maori graduates and academics.

At last month's dinner Dr Sharples raised the important issue of Maori participation in New Zealand universities.

Full article:

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/opinion/2582585/Bridging-the-gap-at-university>

Extra \$15m for Australia-Asia Student Exchange

Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP
July 07 2009

The Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, today extended the Endeavour Australia Cheung Kong Scholarship Program for a further 10 years at a signing ceremony in Melbourne.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090707_173421.aspx

New chief Ed Byrne wants Monash University on regional map

The Australian
July 08 2009

IT is only Ed Byrne's second day back in the country and his first on the job as Monash University's new vice-chancellor, and outside his office the winter sun is shining on the gum trees, reminding him he is back home.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25747766-25918,00.html>

Credit crunch demolishes housing project at Monash University

The Australian
July 08 2009

THE global financial crisis has hit a \$300 million expansion of on-campus student accommodation at Monash University, resulting in the collapse of a development deal with Melbourne property magnate Rino Grollo.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,24897,25747765-12332,00.html>

Call for revived Colombo plan

The Australian
July 08 2009

SCHOLARSHIPS worth scores of millions of dollars should be rolled into a Colombo plan mark II to recalibrate Australia's relations with overseas students and address critical regional, environmental and security issues, a vice-chancellor says.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25747834-12332,00.html>

3rd swine flu case at University Games

The Associated Press
July 06 2009

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP) — Serbian health officials say another two cases of swine flu have been diagnosed at the World University Games.

Full article:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gXvD3w28tWUtXfIA2n7Jn4crPxIAD998UA080>

Australians Travel to India to Talk About Student Safety

Wall Street Journal
July 07 2009

Australian officials kicked off a nine-day tour here to try to improve their higher-education industry's tarnished image and to shore up a key area of trade between the two nations, following a spate of violence against Indian students in Australia.

Full article:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124691057739301917.html>

Education group secures \$1.3m from state

WA Business News
July 06 2009

Perth Education City (PEC) has secured a \$325,000 grant and "in principle" funding of a further \$1 million from the state government to promote Western Australia's international education sector this financial year.

Full article:

<http://www.wabusinessnews.com.au/en-story/1/73597/Education-group-secures-1-3m-from-state>

The racket no one dares name

The Brisbane Times
July 04 2009

We care. Really and truly, we care. Our prime minister and all the state premiers swear they do. Tomorrow, a delegation of Australian officials, educationists and police land in New Delhi to insist: we care.

Yes, we care about the experience Indian and other foreign students get in Australia. But do we care most about the \$15 billion they bring into the Australian economy each year, a flow put at risk by the string of recent attacks on overseas students?

Full article:

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/opinion/the-racket-no-one-dares-name-20090703-d7rh.html>

More women at university than men: study

The Brisbane Times
July 03 2009

More women than men are going to university and the gender gap could widen, new research suggests.

A study by the Australian National University looked at enrolments using data spanning almost a century.

Full article:

<http://news.brisbanetimes.com.au/breaking-news-national/more-women-at-university-than-men-study-20090703-d7e5.html>

On-campus housing increase urged for foreign and regional students

The Australian
July 03 2009

NEWLY arrived international students could be given priority for on-campus accommodation as one way of boosting safety, according to a position paper released on Thursday by peak body Universities Australia.

University Australia chief executive Glenn Withers stressed that priority should also be given to domestic students from regional areas and interstate who have to move to attend university.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,24897,25724104-12332,00.html>

Aussie officials to visit India after student attacks

AFP
July 02 2009

MELBOURNE (AFP) — A high-level Australian delegation will travel to India next week to give safety assurances following a wave of attacks on Indian students, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd said on Thursday.

Rudd said the trip by police and senior government officials was part of a strategy to make international students feel more welcome in Australia.

Full article:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5ibPy3IT68I404nEB7SFzWi1eHUqw>

New student income support estimator released

Joint Media Release: The Hon Kate Ellis MP / The Hon Julia Gillard MP
July 02 2009

The Minister for Education, Julia Gillard today released a student income support estimator to help students plan their future study.

The estimator allows prospective students to enter their parents' income level and family type to gain an estimate of the level of support they might expect to receive under the Rudd Government's proposed changes to Youth Allowance.

Full article:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Ellis/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090702_143015.aspx

COAG focuses on foreign students' safety

Sydney Morning Herald
July 01 2009

The nation's leaders will use a meeting in Darwin on Thursday to discuss the safety of foreign students in Australia.

The discussions will aim to send a message, to India especially, that Australia is generally a very safe place which welcomes students from other countries, Foreign Minister Stephen Smith says.

Full article:

<http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-national/coag-focuses-on-foreign-students-safety-20090701-d3zk.html>

Foreign student death details suppressed

The Age

July 01 2009

DETAILS of the deaths of more than 50 overseas students have been suppressed by Australian coroners amid evidence the death toll is higher than the Federal Government has admitted.

State and territory coroners, under the National Coroners Information System, have refused an application by The Age for data on the deaths of overseas students in the year to November 2008.

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/foreign-student-death-details-suppressed-20090630-d3sg.html>

\$15bn export earnings claim doubt

The Australian

July 01 2009

PEAK university bodies' claims that education is the country's third largest export earner are "grossly misleading" as up to half the headline \$15 billion figure can come from overseas student earnings in Australia, a leading academic says.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25714688-12332,00.html>

Richard Larkins's parting shot as Monash University vice-chancellor

The Australian

July 01 2009

QUIETLY spoken and mild-mannered as he is, Richard Larkins sometimes struggles to stop himself interrupting what you are saying. He knows where you are going, he is already there and he is anxious to tell you what he thinks.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25714090-12332,00.html>

'Our universities trail behind Asia'

The Age

July 01 2009

AUSTRALIAN universities are at risk of falling behind Asian competitors investing heavily in research and building state-of-the-art facilities, warns the retiring vice-chancellor of Monash University.

Richard Larkins, who ended his six-year term at the helm of Monash University on Sunday, said countries such as China, Singapore and Korea had poured money into universities and were building campuses with "stunning" technological capabilities.

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/our-universities-trail-behind-asia-20090701-d3y5.html>

Monash University boss Richard Larkins calls for fee free-for-all

The Australian
July 01 2009

THE federal government must either boost funding to universities or allow Australia's leading tertiary institutions to raise the money themselves by deregulating student fees.

Richard Larkins, the outgoing vice-chancellor of Monash University, said student contributions to higher education in Australia were already high by world standards.

Full article:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25716307-2702,00.html>