NASULGC Commission on International Programs

International Student Enrollment Survey Results

Presented at

2002 NASULGC Annual Meeting
CIP International Student Enrollment Survey

- The survey was compiled by the Executive Committee of CIP
- It was distributed electronically to the CIP email list
- Responses were via email or fax
- The survey had a 25% response rate
- All percent changes compare 2002 with 2001
CIP International Student Enrollment Survey Summary

- Based on respondent information, undergraduate international student enrollment is up slightly from last fall – by an average of approximately 1.4%
- International graduate students are up slightly more – by an average of roughly 7.1%
Total International Undergraduate Population

Total Undergraduate Population

- **Academic year 2002**: 25302
- **Academic year 2001**: 24946

**N = 50**
Total International Graduate Population

Total Graduate Population

- Academic year 2002: 49,453
- Academic year 2001: 46,175

N = 50
### Undergraduate & Graduate Enrollments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size of international student population</th>
<th>Undergraduates</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of institutions</td>
<td>Change in enrollment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 100</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101-500</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>501-1000</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 1,001</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Undergraduate & Graduate Enrollments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of institution</th>
<th>Undergraduates</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of institutions</td>
<td>Change in enrollment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research extensive</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research intensive</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s I</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate General</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Undergraduate International Enrollment**

- Undergraduate international enrollment is up overall 1.4%.
- Two institutions with over 1000 international undergrads reported a decrease.
- On average institutions with a small international student populations saw the largest gains.
- The most notable increases in international undergrads occurred in institutions with very large or very small international student populations.
Graduate International Enrollment

- Average graduate international enrollment was up 7.1%
- Institutions enrolling fewer than 100 international graduate students saw the largest increases and decreases: one institution reported an increase of 200%, and one had a 37.5% decrease.
- Institutions with the large numbers of international graduate students also saw the largest average increases.
Doctoral/Research Extensive Institutions

Doctoral/Research Extensive

- Undergraduate/AY2002
- Undergraduate/AY2001
- Graduate/AY2002
- Graduate/AY2001

Undergrad N= 37  Grad N=38
Doctoral/Research Intensive Institutions

**Doctoral/Research Intensive**

- Undergrad/AY2002
- Undergrad/AY2001
- Graduate/AY2002
- Graduate/AY2001

N = 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AY2002</td>
<td>1069</td>
<td>1010</td>
<td>1632</td>
<td>1584</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N = 6
Master’s Colleges and Universities

Master's Colleges and Univ's--I

- Undergrad/AY2002
- Undergrad/AY2001
- Graduate/AY2002
- Graduate/AY2001

N = 5
# International Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of international faculty</th>
<th>Number of institutions</th>
<th>Percent change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 10</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-20</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-30</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 30</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-5.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
International Faculty

- On average, international faculty members increased by 4.2%.
- The change in international faculty varied widely – from a decrease of 57% to a 250% increase.
- 6 institutions reported increases above 100%
- One-third of respondents reported problems – mainly delays – with securing visas for faculty members
International Scholars

International Scholars
(All Carnegie Classifications)

N=40

Academic year 2002
Academic year 2001

7279
6874
**International Scholars (J visas)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of international scholars</th>
<th>Number of institutions</th>
<th>Percent change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 100</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>-1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101-250</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>251-500</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 500</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
International Scholars (J visas)

- On average, international scholars increased 6.1% from 2001.
- By far, the largest increase was among institutions with 100-250 international scholars.
- Those with under 100 J visa holders actually saw a slight decrease in numbers on average.
- One institution with a relatively small number of international scholars increased 500% from last year.
69% of respondents offer non-degree, short-term programs for professionals.

Of these, 36% reported problems in securing visas for participants, particularly for Middle Eastern, Asian, Muslim and male students.
Gender balances

- Half of respondents reported a change in the gender balance of their international students.
- Among those that reported a change, it was most often a decrease in the percentage of male students.
- Many institutions noted that their male students are facing increased scrutiny during the visa process.
Regional Trends

- 44% of respondents reported a regional trend in international enrollment.
  - The most common trend was a decrease in Middle Eastern and Asian students, in particular Saudis, Pakistanis, Chinese and Muslims. This has mainly been due to severe visa processing delays and denials of visas.
  - Several institutions reported increases in the number of students from India.
Social Security Administration

- 63% of respondents reported problems dealing with the Social Security Administration.
- The most common problems reported were:
  - delays of up to several months in issuing SSN’s due to having to verify status with INS
  - SSA offices requiring letters from institutions verifying eligibility
  - SSA offices requiring extensive supportive documentation from students
Social Security Administration

In general, institutions that have an established positive working relationship with the local SSA office reported fewer problems.

Longer delays in obtaining SS cards and stricter requirements for obtaining SSN’s are the most common complaint.
Comments and observations

- An Iranian faculty member was stranded in Canada for three months waiting for clearance so that his visa stamp could be issued.
- Another institution reports that significant numbers of male prospective students from Middle Eastern countries as well as individuals from Pakistan, Malaysia, and Indonesia were unable to obtain student visas in July to begin degree programs in August. Most have deferred admission to January 2003 and hope to commence studies then.
- Several students from China and Saudi Arabia have had problems at another institution. They were able to successfully intervene on behalf of their Chinese students by directly contacting the U.S. Embassy in China. They have heard that it is taking several months to complete background check on Saudi students who wish to study in the US. As a result, they have allowed the students to adjust the beginning of their educational programs and have made appropriate visa modifications. One Saudi student, however, decided to study in England rather than delay his educational program in the United States.
Anecdotal

- A southern respondent had one faculty member who went home to Lebanon for the summer and could not get back to US. He would not have had any problem if he had stayed here. It is the going back and forth from the US to Lebanon that is problematic for the U.S. government.

- A western institution’s Fall 2002 intake of Middle Eastern students and Pakistani students (new to US) was almost nonexistent due to visa processing delays and denials.

- The process for students to obtain a social security number has become a huge headache at another institution. Some students have had to wait as long as 2 months and still don’t have the card. This has created a problem for payroll services on campus.

- Seventeen students from the Middle East could not return to a mid-western respondent this fall due to delays in visa issuance. Most should be able to return Spring 2003.
More Anecdotal

- A southern institution had a Chinese national who has been working at the Max Planck Institute in Germany. Their chemistry department paid for premium processing of an H1 temporary worker petition for him so that he would have time to apply for the visa in Germany. The US consulate refused to accept his application because they said that the 3-4 months that he had permission to stay in Germany would not be sufficient time to process his security clearance.

- One respondent hosts Humphrey Fellows from developing countries who are mid career professional selected by the State Department to study economic development. Fellows selected from Pakistan were unable to get visas to study at there for one year. Another from Saudi Arabia was allowed entry but denied reentry after returning home to get married.
SEVIS & ISEAS Observations

“SEVIS has dominated the energies of [our] office this past year. This program is a poor way to wage a war against terrorism. It has driven international student personnel out of the profession and will create a data bottleneck with which the INS will not be able to deal. The imposition of unrealistic deadlines and lack of tools to meet them has produced a frustration and cynicism that can only hurt the cause of international educational exchange.”

“Changes in visa procedures, social security procedures, driver license procedures for non-citizens in [our state], INS procedures and regulations, and the upcoming SEVIS system have made this a difficult fall for university offices that work with international students, scholars and faculty. With regard to SEVIS, we are fortunate that the university has made the commitment to providing resources and staffing to enable us to do as much as possible to prepare for this new system. We anticipate problems, and expect that the spring will be just as “rocky” as this fall in terms of changes and uncertainty about new rules, regulations, and procedures implemented for national security.”
Conclusions

- This survey was initiated to answer three questions:
  - 1) Have the overall numbers of international students suffered since last 9/11?
  - 2) Have there been trends in terms of the composition of our international population?
  - 3) Have there been any new delays on our campuses?

- Overall, 9/11 does not seem to have drastically affected international student enrollment figures. In fact, in most cases, numbers are up.

- In general, institutions face lengthy delays in visa and social security processing which can affect a student’s ability to arrive on campus in time, but institutions are being as accommodating as possible.

- There does appear to be some trends in international student enrollment in terms of geographic and gender distribution in terms of a slight decline in Middle Eastern and male students.