

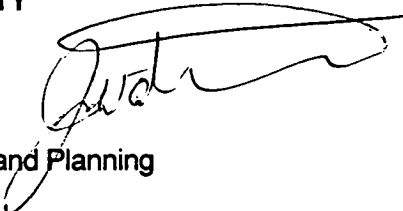
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate

FROM: J. H. Waterhouse, Chair,
Senate Committee on Enrollment Management and Planning

SUBJECT: International Undergraduate Students at Simon Fraser University

DATE: February 13, 2003



At its March 2000 meeting, Senate approved a motion from the Senate Committee on Academic Planning to extend the 7% limit on admission of international students to SFU for a period of three academic years (2000/01, 2001/02, and 2002/03).

Action undertaken by SCEMP at its meeting of February 5th, 2003 gives rise to the following motion:

Motion:

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors, that a target for the number of international students, excluding exchange students, who are studying in undergraduate programs at SFU be established at 10% of SFU's funded undergraduate FTE target in the academic years 2003/4, 2004/05, 2005/06."

Simon Fraser University

SFU International

Rationale

The process of internationalization at Simon Fraser University includes the recruitment and retention of international students as an important component. International students facilitate an international dimension to teaching, research and community service, and thereby improve the quality of higher education for all students. The presence of international students enriches the learning environment for Canadian students by bringing a greater diversity of languages, cultures and perspectives to the classroom, thus providing more international knowledge and intercultural experiences for those Canadian students who do not have the opportunity to study abroad. The presence of international students on campus helps universities meet their obligation to prepare students for a national economy and cultural milieu changed by globalization. Moreover, recruiting the best and brightest international students to Canadian campuses improves the quality and capacity of Canadian university teaching and research in a range of disciplines, adding new ideas and approaches to help advance our understanding of key national and global issues.

In the longer-term, as international students return to their home countries, they form a pool of important contacts for the University, particularly since a portion of them assume or grow into positions of influence or become entrepreneurs with the potential to develop business, academic and governmental linkages with Canada and Canadians. Further, returning international students comprise our audience of international alumni which can and have provided assistance with international fund-raising, links to international research opportunities and sources of international co-op work placements.

In order to fully realize the benefits of international students on our campus, we need to have a strong, diverse and dynamic community that is well integrated with the domestic student population. The international student population needs to be large enough to accurately and effectively reflect the cultures and ideas of the world while at the same time reflecting logistical and geographic realities. Presently, the international population at SFU is under-represented by students from Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, the Pacific, Scandinavia and Central Europe and is low, as a proportion of the total undergraduate student body in comparison with other comparable institutions across Canada.

Accordingly, as suggested by the recommendation in the opening section of this document, SFU International has developed a number of objectives that aim to strengthen both quantitatively and qualitatively, the international undergraduate student component of the university's internationalization strategy. These objectives include:

Objective 1: By 2005, international undergraduate students will comprise 10% of the funded undergraduate student body and will be drawn from diverse countries (2002/03 = approx 5.8%).

Objective 2: By 2005, US undergraduate admissions will increase to 10% of the international student body (2002/03 = approx 7.3%).

Objective 3: By 2005, international students admitted from other Canadian institutions will comprise 60% of the international student body (2002/03 = approx 65%).

Objective 4: By 2005, international undergraduate students admitted from 'overseas' will comprise 30% of the international student body (2002/03 = approx 25%).

Action plans and a budget proposal in support of each subsidiary objective will be developed after Objective 1 is approved.

TABLE 1**New Undergraduate International Students by Country of Citizenship**

Sum of fraction country	year 2002/03
China (PRC)	186
Hong Kong	43
Taiwan	32
South Korea	31
Japan	25
United States	23
Indonesia	22
Singapore	12
Germany	12
Malaysia	8
India	7
United Kingdom	7
Norway	6
Mexico	3
Thailand	3
Pakistan	3
Israel	3
USSR	3
Phillippines	3
Iran	2
Sweden	2
Kenya	2
Brazil	2
Sri Lanka	2
Venezuela	2
Turkey	2
Tanzania	2
Mauritius	2
North Korea	2
SENE	2
Other Countries	20
Grand Total	474