

EDUCATION

Updates

11 June 2018

ASIA & PACIFIC

Australia: Concerns for students with disabilities as national report reveals widespread bullying, assaults and suicide taunts [ABC]. More than 56% of students with disabilities had experienced bullying over a 12-month period, a national survey has found. In New South Wales, the Disability Services Minister, Ray Williams, said the Government was considering a state-wide mentoring program to help support students with disabilities and reduce bullying.

Singapore: Call to combine best of Swiss and Singapore Education [ANN]. Combining the best of Switzerland's emphasis on vocational training with Singapore's more academic-oriented education system will help students prepare for a future of disruption. But at the same time, society has to broaden its notion of success, said Education Minister Ong Ye Kung at the 3rd International Congress on Vocational and Professional Education and Training in Switzerland. The minister also noted that the Swiss dual-study system, which combines classroom study with workplace apprentice training, is of particular interest to Singapore.

Singapore's success in education: A forward-looking, integrated planning system. The Manpower ministry works with various economic agencies responsible for promoting specific industry groups to identify critical manpower needs and project demands for future skills. These are then fed back both into pre-employment training and continuing education and training. The ministry of Education and the institutions of higher and post-secondary education then use these skill projections to inform their own education planning, especially for universities, polytechnics and technical institutes. *[Source: Strong Performers and Successful Reformers in Education: Lessons from PISA for the United States, OECD]*

Malaysia: The Indonesian government is looking to set up a vocational school in Kota Kinabalu, as part of its human capital development for children of nationals working in Sabah and Sarawak. [STAR]. Indonesian Ambassador to Malaysia Rusdi Kirana said the school would provide courses such as mechanical engineering, tourism and hospitality, as well as those relating to the agriculture and plantation sectors. Indonesia would also discuss with its Sarawak counterpart on setting up a skills training

institute in the state, the type of courses and training that were suitable for the local job market.

Thailand's Education Ministry Will Now Include Sex Education on Ordinary National Educational Test (Onet) [CT] from this year forward as a part of efforts to prevent teen pregnancy. The decision was reached at a meeting of the committee on preventing teen pregnancy and solving related problems held last Friday. Thailand's teenage pregnancy rate is the highest in Southeast Asia after neighboring Laos, according to the Bureau of Reproductive Health at the Thai Public Health Ministry.

Thanks To Visa Extension, UAE Hopes To Attract More International Students [MS]. The managing director of Dubai International Academic City (DIAC) and the Dubai Knowledge Park, said that the new policy would allow UAE industry, specifically Dubai, to accommodate an influx of students and universities, in addition to an increased capacity to retain top students. The new visa policy will allow a five-year residency visa for all students, a 10-year visa for academically exceptional students, and a post-graduation extension for those who live as their parents' dependents in the UAE.

Forward-thinking Dubai schools choose innovation over exams [National]. Educators in UAE say encouraging students to create and think critically is more important than assessments through tests. Teachers and education chiefs are ready to embrace change in the current exam system following the release of the UAE's human development report this week, which called for a "flexible environment in curricula teaching" and "non-compliance with exams or textbooks. The report also urged those shaping young minds to encourage 'creation and innovation'.

EUROPE

Why International Students Pick Germany [MS]. Germany is a hotspot for international students. The Local's recent article on the results of a new survey about international students in Germany sheds new light on why so many international students flock to the country. The online site, Studying In Germany, surveyed over 4,000 prospective students to Germany and determined the number one reason that international students choose Germany, which is Money.

EUROPE (CONT'D)

Finnish Anti-Bullying Programme Goes To Schools in Iceland [GNF] Finland University, the University of Turku, and the University of Iceland's School of Education have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to pave the way for the implementation of the KiVa anti-bullying programme in Iceland. As the world's only research-based anti-bullying programme, *KiVa* has caught the attention of Halldóra Vanda Sigurgeirsdóttir, an assistant professor at the University of Iceland's School of Education, who has led the charge against bullying in Iceland for over 30 years.

United Kingdom: International teacher recruitment: understanding the attitudes and experiences of school leaders and teachers. The Sheffield Hallam University and the University of Brighton were commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE) to research schools' approaches to recruit teachers from abroad, their motivations, behaviours and the perceived benefits and barriers to recruiting internationally. More specifically, the research aimed to help inform decisions on how the DfE might support the recruitment of international STEM and MFL teachers, and to identify key principles for the design and delivery of international recruitment initiatives. The main driver of international recruitment was the desire to fill a vacant post with a specialist teacher. Most school leaders felt strongly that they should not need to recruit international teachers and that more should be done to ensure a sufficient supply of nationally based teachers, including taking steps to improve the retention of existing teachers. [Source: *Research Report: International teacher recruitment: understanding the attitudes and experiences of school leaders and teachers* by Bernadette S., Ben W., Martin C., Carol R., Mike C. & Andrew JH.]

UNESCO

Aid To Education Reached All Time High in 2016. new policy paper by UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report shows that aid to education grew by US\$1.5 billion, or 13%, to a record US\$13.4 billion between 2015 and 2016, its highest level since records began in 2002. The paper, released in May 2018, was addressed at the Ministerial Conference of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) in Paris on 24 May 2018.

Sources:

- ABC: News
- Asian News Network
- Chiang Rai Times
- STAR News
- Master Studies
- Good News Finland
- The National

ASEAN

Stop Relying on Chinese International Students, ASEAN Countries Say To Australia. Calls for Australia to stop relying so heavily on Chinese international students and start looking to its neighbours for students was discussed at the ASEAN-Australia Education Dialogue, in Penang, Malaysia

Turkey launch sectoral dialogue partnership for stronger cooperation. ASEAN and Turkey convened the Inaugural ASEAN-Turkey Joint Sectoral Cooperation Committee (AT-JSCC) Meeting on 30 May at the ASEAN Secretariat to mark the launch of their formal partnership. The AT-JSCC is the cooperation mechanism to oversee and provide direction to the sectoral dialogue partnership. Both sides also agreed to develop a list of cooperation areas, which will serve as a practical guide to further substantiate the partnership with a focus on areas of mutual interest, aligned with the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING 2019: ASEAN

No	University	Country	Rank
1	National University of Singapore (NUS)	Singapore	11
2	Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU)	Singapore	12
3	Universiti Malaya (UM)	Malaysia	87
4	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)	Malaysia	184
5	Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)	Malaysia	202
6	Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)	Malaysia	207
7	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)	Malaysia	228
8	Chulalongkorn University	Thailand	271
9	Universitas Indonesia	Indonesia	292
10	University of Brunei Darussalam (UBD)	Brunei Darussalam	323
11	Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB)	Indonesia	359
12	Mahidol University	Thailand	380
13	University of Philippines	Philippines	384
14	Gadjah Mada Un	Indonesia	391
15	University of Technology Brunei (UTB)	Brunei Darussalam	442
16	UCSI University	Malaysian	481
17	Singapore Management University (SMU)	Singapore	500