

Internationalisation

Priority: To contribute to the internationalisation of the University and of the Sunshine Coast in order to heighten international economic and academic benefits for the whole region.

■ **Increasing the number of domestic students studying part of their program overseas**

Overseas Study

The following table provides the number and proportion of undergraduate domestic students who have undertaken some of their studies overseas.

Year	Number of students	Total student number	Percentage
2001	20	1269	1.68
2002	26	1372	1.9
2003	25	1382	1.8
2004	41	1323	3.1
2005	48	1444	3.3

Students receive Hessen Scholarships

Six undergraduate University of the Sunshine Coast students travelled to Germany after receiving scholarships from the State of Hessen, a Queensland sister state. The students took part in International Summer University (ISU) programs in Fulda, Frankfurt, Kassel and Marburg. Five students remained in Europe to spend a full semester studying overseas as part of their degrees. The Hessen Ministry offered only 14 student scholarships in 2005, and the University of the Sunshine Coast was one of only two Queensland universities to receive them.

■ **Increasing the proportion of international students in the student body**

International Recruitment

The University actively recruits international students into its programs utilising a variety of means. These include recruitment agents, exhibitions, visiting VET/TAFE institutions, visiting English language schools, print and electronic publications, and pathways established with partner institutions. The latter is significant and is reflected in the number of students enrolled in the Study Abroad program. A particular challenge in achieving this goal is that the number of domestic students in the student body is growing strongly, so the base against which the proportion is measured is increasing swiftly.

Year	Award Students	Study Abroad Students	Total Students	Percentage
2003	85	88	173	5.33
2004	127	153	280	8.14
2005	173	168	341	9.10

SUNY Cortland Students Visit

Fourteen pre-service teachers from the State University of New York (SUNY) Cortland campus visited the Sunshine Coast for 15 weeks as part of an international partnership between SUNY Cortland and the University. The students spent six weeks enrolled in the Intensive Study Abroad Program before heading out into Sunshine Coast schools for a nine-week classroom student teacher practicum.



Six undergraduate students travelled to Germany on State of Hessen scholarships.



Pre-service teachers from the State University of New York Cortland visited USC as part of an international partnership.

Worldwide Appeal

The International Communication course run at the University is proving popular with both local and international students. In Semester 2, 2005 the course brought together students from Australia, Chile, Mexico, USA, Switzerland, Germany, Sweden and Japan with a third of the students in the class from overseas.

■ Increasing the number of USC staff undertaking projects involving teaching and research in collaboration with international partner universities

The Office of Learning Teaching and Research is currently collecting data in this area.

■ Degree to which the curriculum is internationalised

Measuring Interaction

Internationalisation of the curriculum is mandated in the University's Learning and Teaching Plan. An implementation process began in 2005. By the end of 2006 all degree programs will be evaluated and modified to ensure appropriate internationalisation. The process was initiated with a staff development workshop conducted by Dr Michael Singh of the University of Western Sydney.

■ Degree to which interaction between international students, and other parts of the University and the broader community is achieved

Measuring Interaction

The University is currently investigating ways to devise a suitable means of measuring interaction between international students and the local community. An obvious contribution to the goal is through the use of homestay accommodation by international students. In excess of 900 students, including short term study tour students, were placed with Sunshine Coast families during 2005.

Peace Scholarship Recipient

IDP Education Peace Scholarship recipient and sociology student, Selvarajan Natarajan, studied at the University of the Sunshine Coast during 2005. Mr Natarajan had spent many hours helping the needy in his local community, most recently in the wake of the December 2004 tsunami that struck his hometown of Chennai, India. Mr Natarajan was appreciative of his time at the University and his Peace Scholarship Program scholarship. Since its inception in 2001, the Program has allowed more than 60 students the opportunity to study in Australia.



IDP Education Peace Scholarship recipient and sociology student, Selvarajan Natarajan.

Indicators of Success

■ Number of domestic students undertaking part of their undergraduate program overseas

In 2005, 48 students chose to study part of their program overseas.

2005 Destination

Country	Students
China	2
Costa Rica	1
Finland	1
France	2
Germany	9
Italy	3
Japan	12
Korea	2
Sweden	2
Thailand	1
USA	13

■ Number of staff pursuing projects involving teaching and research with colleagues from international partner institutions

The Office of Learning Teaching and Research is currently collecting data in this area for subsequent reports.



The International Communication course attracts a diverse group of international students.