SIO as Change Agent:
The New Wave of Students from China - Rising Expectations and Challenges

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Top Asian Countries of Origin

China #1
India #2
Vietnam #6
Japan #9
Taiwan #7
South Korea #4

Graph showing the number of students from various Asian countries over a period from 1991/92 to 2015/16.
Study Fields of PRC students

- **STEM**: 42.7%
  - Engineering: 18.6%
  - Math/Computer Science: 14.1%
  - Other STEM: 10.0%
- **Business & Management**: 24.3%
- **Social Sciences**: 8.7%
- **Fine & Applied Arts**: 6.5%
- **Intensive English**: 2.2%
- **Undeclared & Other**: 15.7%
Top Destinations of PRC Students:

- Project Atlas 2016 -

United States: 328,547
Australia: 97,984
United Kingdom: 94,995
Canada: 83,990
Japan: 74,921
South Korea: 54,214
Germany: 30,259
France: 28,043
Russia: 20,209

Figures reflect data release year.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Institution</th>
<th>International Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral Universities: Highest Research Activity</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral Universities: Higher Research Activity</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral Universities: Moderate Research Activity</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master's Colleges &amp; Universities: Small Programs</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master's Colleges &amp; Universities: Medium Programs</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master's Colleges &amp; Universities: Larger Programs</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate Colleges: Diverse Fields</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate Colleges: Arts &amp; Sciences Focus</td>
<td>29.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associates: All</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Top States Hosting PRC Students - 2016 -

California: 16.1%
New York: 12.4%
Massachusetts: 6.2%
Pennsylvania: 5.8%
Illinois: 5.1%

Students from China
Total: 328,547
PRC Students as % of International Students in Cities

- Boston
- New York
- Philadelphia
- Miami
- Pittsburgh
- D.C.
- Chicago
- Houston
- San Francisco
- San Jose
- San Diego
- Los Angeles
- Phoenix
- San Francisco
- San Jose
- San Diego
- Los Angeles
- Phoenix

% of International Student Enrollment:
- > 40%
- 30-39.9 %
- < 20-29.9 %
UC Davis PRC Graduate and Undergraduate Students 2005-2015

Number of Students

Fall Term

Undergraduate | Graduate

2005: 320 | 70
2006: 279 | 63
2007: 307 | 80
2008: 309 | 125
2009: 320 | 160
2010: 346 | 218
2011: 395 | 350
2012: 448 | 646
2013: 547 | 1,001
2014: 624 | 1,339
2015: 719 | 2,005

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UC Davis PRC Undergraduates Compared to Other International Undergraduates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>China</th>
<th>Non China</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>125</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>160</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>218</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>350</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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Fall Term
UC Davis
2015 Undergraduates by Ethnicity

Chinese-American/Chinese (domestic) 15%
Chinese (international) 7%
Non-Chinese International 3%
All other domestic 75%
Major Challenges

• English comprehension and confidence
  • Will this improve over time?
  • Problems with relying on test scores
  • Support through ESL and other campus resources

• Cultural isolation and loneliness
  • Managing personal relationships
  • Curricular and co-curricular remedies

• Academic culture
  • Importance of orientations
  • Contact with faculty outside of classroom
Major Challenges

• Uncertainty about the Future
  • More information about career options
  • Internships

• Academic integrity
  • Cultural factors
  • Rational response to failure not an option

• Not all majors are equal – STEM fields
  • Those who want to remain in the United States
  • The problem with STEM majors

• Why this is not a list of major challenges
  • Most of these challenges are interconnected
RICE Students from PRC
RICE UGs from PRC in proportion to non-PRC UGs

PRC
Intnl

286 (59%)
On Campus Experience With:

• Acculturation issues
  • Homesick
  • Introverted, not as talkative (per US standards)
  • Unfamiliar w/campus culture AND community culture (TX?)

• Mental stress
  • Vulnerable, but no outlet of expression
  • Difficult to talk about feelings

• Dilemma of seeking help
  • Unfamiliar with counselling services
  • Worried about revealing too much, and falling into trouble
How are PRC students doing on your campus?
Published Surveys of PRC students


• Foreign Policy, Nov 16, 2015. “Chinese Students in America: 300,000 and Counting”.
Surveys revealed PRC students felt:

- more comfortable confiding in parents and partners (as opposed to counselors or peers);
- indignant or inhibited over the job search process in the U.S;
- overwhelmed by idioms and jargon used in social conversations with U.S. peers; and
- the need to retreat into groups or networks of their own cultural peers, when feeling inadequate or rejected.
UG vs PG students from PRC

• Better acculturated
• More globalized mindset, less China-centric
• Better resourced and supported by (grand)parents
• More familiar with social media norms and customs
• Better travelled and networked before arrival
• Comfortable with careers and living in any region
• Bigger Spenders ($11bn in 2015 per Dept of Commerce)