

Statistics describe "the foreign student"

By Nancy Stohs

Statistically, the foreign student at UNL is most likely to be Asian, a grad student, majoring in engineering, unmarried, living off-campus, wealthy and making his grades.

Of course, numbers can't tell you what the individual student thinks or feels. But certain totals and percentages, be they home country or academic major, do tell much, if some questions are asked.

First statistic: Of 585 foreign students, 97 are women. Why so many men?

According to Rowena Boyken, UNL foreign student adviser, men abroad get priority in education, especially from governments in developing countries. Women traditionally are expected to stay at home, no questions asked.

For students this means dating problems. Hong Kong students, for example decided not to have a dance at the Chinese New Year banquet because, "There wouldn't be enough girls to dance with," Boyken said.

More graduates

Statistics show 281 graduate foreign students at UNL compared with 230 undergraduates.

Explanation? Many governments won't sponsor a student overseas unless he already has one degree, Boyken said. India, with 72 students here, is an example.

It also means many foreign students are older than undergraduates. And, as many will tell you, they have trouble relating to American students.

It also may be one reason 92 per cent live in off-campus housing.

By country, Hong Kong has the most students here, with 134. At one time there were 300, Boyken said.

65 countries

Hong Kong junior Peggy Kan, pre-med, said television there shows students the "good side" of America, and they come here seeking better prospects. Hong Kong's future, next door to Red China, is too unstable right now, she said.

Altogether 65 countries, ranging from Germany to Lesotho, Africa, are represented (20 countries by

EUROPE No. of Stu.

England	8
Germany	7
Russia	1
Netherlands	2
Norway	2
Denmark	1
France	2
Austria	3
Greece	2
Spain	1
Sweden	1

MIDDLE EAST

Saudia Arabia	4
Lebanon	6
Kuwait	1
Jordan	1
Syria	2
Iran	48
Iraq	6
UAR	8
Turkey	7
Afghanistan	2

LATIN AMERICA

Venezuela	1
El Salvador	1
Trinidad	1
Guatemala	1
Colombia	16
Bolivia	1
Peru	1
Chile	2
Grenada	1

NORTH AMERICA

Canada	5
Mexico	5
Bahamas	2
Cuba	5
Dominican Rep	1

AFRICA

Nigeria	52
Ethiopia	8
Libya	8
Tanzania	3
Guyana	2
Kenya	2
Cameroon	1
Uganda	1
Ghana	1
Rhodesia	1
Rwanda	1
Sierra Leone	1
Lesotho	1

ASIA

India	72
Pakistan	24
Bangladesh	1
Taiwan	34
Hong Kong	134
Thailand	11
Singapore	1
Vietnam	5
Korea	12
Indonesia	2
Japan	9
Martana Is.	2
Phillippines	5
Australia	5

Data provided by the UNL Foreign Student Office

only one student). After Hong Kong and India, Nigeria leads with 52 students, then Iran (48), Taiwan (34), Pakistan (24) and Colombia (16).

More than 66 per cent of students are from Asia and the Middle East. Only five per cent are from European countries.

There is no exchange program with Communist countries, but there are five Cuban refugees and one Russian defector at UNL, Boyken said.

As for majors, the sciences and technical fields rank highest. Topping the list are business administration (42), chemistry (41), electrical engineering (35), computer science (32) and pre-med (26). Engineering fields comprise 18 per cent and the five top majors, 30 per cent.

Altogether 93 majors are represented.

\$3,500 expenses

Statistics aren't available on family incomes, but Boyken said she thinks many students are from wealthy families and metropolitan areas.

Each student on the average spends at least \$3,500 for two semesters' books, tuition, room and board and transportation. Jamaican sophomore Judith Sadler said she spends \$4,500, and "that's not being extravagant."

The great majority are here on private—not government—funds, Boyken said.

Most foreign students have to be highly motivated, have clear goals and intelligent minds to get here in the first place, she added.

Each fall about 80-100 new students arrive at UNL, and about 40-50 start January.

But this may change, Boyken said.

A new immigration law now requires the candidate prove he can support himself until completion of an academic degree, not just for one year. Most students, she said, plan to stay longer than a year.

Other statistics show there are 77 students registering as permanent residents, meaning they intend to become citizens. Practical trainees (a full-time, post-degree work program) number 49. Current figures aren't available, but last semester 142 students were married, 417 single.

...Chatterjee

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speaks a different language, so English is their common tongue, she said.

Although she and her roommate eat different foods, she said they make a point of eating at the same time.

Chatterjee fixes both American and Indian foods and says she is equally fond of both.

California visit

"Ice cream, pizza, hamburgers. I love them," she said.

She also said she likes Americans because they are outgoing and friendly. Nebraskans, she said, are more conservative than Californians.

Her uncle lives in California, and she got to visit him for 18 days at Christmas, she said.

Chatterjee said she spends most of her time at the lab working on her project. She is trying to determine what initiates protein synthesis in mammals.

But she also likes to go to the movies, Sheldon and the Women's Physical Education building. She said she likes indoor sports, but after 10 or 11 hours in lab, she is often too tired to participate.

In addition, jeans and American parties are on her list of favorites. "The parties are very lively and dancing is fun," she said.

But Chatterjee doesn't plan on staying in Nebraska after she graduates in 1977.

Rather, she hopes to go back to India and do research or teach, but she said she'll have to wait and see what happens.

Nevertheless, she said her experiences in America are "an experience in life," and she'll never forget them.

DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARDS

Nominations for Distinguished Teacher Awards are now being accepted by the various colleges. Teachers receiving this award are given a medallion and a prize of \$1,000. Students are invited, indeed urged, to make such nominations. Nominations should be in your Dean's office by February 15, 1975. Simply follow directions as outlined by your college below:

AGRICULTURE

Submit nominations and supplementary material to the office of the Dean, College of Agriculture, c/o T. E. Hartung, 103 Ag Hall, East campus

ARCHITECTURE

Submit nominations and supporting material to the Student Advisory Board, B-7, Beechman, Chairman, c/o Dean's office.

ARTS & SCIENCES

Secure standard nomination form from Dean's office, 1223 Oldfather Hall. Send material to Dr. Max D. Larsen, 1223 Oldfather Hall.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Contact Dean's office, 240 CBA. Detailed information will be posted in CBA building and published in Update.

DENTISTRY

Submit nominations and supplementary material to the office of the Dean, Room 107, College of Dentistry, East Campus.

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

Make nominations through department student organizations.

HOME ECONOMICS

Make nominations through Student Advisory Council or directly to Dean's office, 105 Home Economics Building, East Campus.

LAW

Nominations are made through an in-college process. Contact Dean's office, 208 Law, for further information.

TEACHERS

Nominations through Student Advisory Board or directly to the Dean's office, 101 Teachers College.

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