

## Iran

A shortage of universities in their home country is the main reason Iranian students study in the United States, according to a member of the UN-L Organization of Iranian Students.

The student (who did not want his name used) said, over 50,000 Iranian students are studying in the U.S., mainly on the east and west coasts and in Texas.

There are only 50 colleges in Iran, he said, compared to the thousands of universities across the United States. The Universities are better here, with bigger labs that can handle larger classes.

Because it is very expensive to study here most of the Iranian students come from wealthy families, he said.

But about 20 percent of the students are on scholarships granted by the Iranian government. They receive \$300 to \$400 each month, he said.

He said he came to Nebraska because he had friends studying here. Many students come for similar reasons.

The number of Iranian students has been increasing at UN-L, he said, and 200 are expected to enroll this fall. Last year 140 students from Iran studied here.

He said 50 of those students, like himself, are in the College of Engineering.

Many foreign students would like to remain in the United States after completing their studies but most cannot get permanent visas, he said.

# World Outlook

## Nigeria

Why did Patrick Anyikwa come to Nebraska?

"That's a very big question," according to the president of the Nigerian Student Association.

"I have been asked that at least 20 times and on each occasion I gave a different answer," he said.

There is probably no single reason for any of the nearly 125 Nigerian students who are studying at UN-L. Anyikwa said.

They come with a desire for adventure and a "sense of admiration for the ingenuity of Americans," as well to get an education, he said.

Many of the Nigerian students at UN-L came to Nebraska because their friends who were here wrote them about Lincoln and urged them to come, Anyikwa said.

When Anyikwa came to the University in 1975 he said there were approximately 40 Nigerian students. The increase in students coming here can be attributed to this word of mouth.

Anyikwa said however that more would come if the costs were not so high. Tuition for foreign students as non residents is \$61 per hour, he said.

But when the students do come, they encounter few problems.

"Lincoln is a city where one could feel at home," Anyikwa said.

But he said that sometimes 'we feel that we are on one side and that Americans are on the other side. There isn't much input in the University student organizations from foreign students."

He said it might be a good idea to reserve a student senate seat for a foreign student. "When you have somebody there you have a sense of belonging."

He said Nigerian students have some problem in classes with language problems—but not because they do not understand the material, but because they are sometimes afraid of asking questions for fear of looking dumb.

He said some professors when speaking about issues and conditions in Africa and Nigeria will look to the Nigerian students and apologize as if the professor had said something offensive.

"We don't want that," Anyikwa said. "We want to be accepted. Come out with the facts and that's that."



Stories by

Amy Lenzen and George Wrig

## Hong Kong

The British Colony of Hong Kong, on the coast of southeastern China, has over four million people living in an area the size of Lancaster County.

The group of islands has only two universities, and students from Hong Kong find it necessary to continue their education abroad after high school.

A past president of the Chinese Student Association, (he did not want his name to be used) said the number of students from Hong Kong at UN-L and other universities across the U.S. has been declining because the United States has recently restricted the number of visas granted to foreign students and the quota of student visas from Hong Kong is full.

"At one time there were 300 Hong Kong students at the University (Lincoln)," he said. "Now only 50 students are studying here."

He said he chose UN-L because it was inexpensive compared to other universities. A placement center in Hong Kong has catalogs of all the Universities across the world and UN-L was the only campus he applied

to.

Because of the costs of studying abroad only those from upper middle-class or upper-class families can afford to attend foreign universities, he said.

No scholarships are given by the government of Hong Kong for study in the United States, but a few are given to students who wish to study in Great Britain, because Hong Kong is a British colony.

UN-L has given two students from Hong Kong scholarships, he said, but only after they had studied here for a year.

He has studied life science at UN-L for four years, and plans to apply for medical school next year. But he said he doubts if he will be able to get into medical school because of the competition and he will probably return home next year when his visa expires.

The University was a good experience, he said. "The United States has the world's most modernized universities, especially in science areas, and are the best places to go," he said.