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### International Student Guidelines Evaluation

Commission for Blacks

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### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDELINES EVALUATION

In May 1982, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville adopted guidelines on foreign student enrollment. This report is the first attempt to assess whether the principles and objectives regarding those guidelines are, in fact, being applied at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. (The principles and objectives regarding those guidelines are reproduced in the addendum which is attached.) This report is based on Fall Quarter 1983 statistics and reflects the specific areas of those guidelines.

The present non-immigrant student population at UTK shows 880 international students. The foreign Undergraduate enrollment totals 511 of the 21,004 students in the Undergraduate student body. This projects to 2.43% of the student body, well below the 3% guideline.

There were a total of 369 foreign Graduate students compared to an overall figure of 5,850 graduate students enrolled. This projects to 6.31% of the Graduate enrollment. This is well below the 10% recommended ceiling for international students in the Graduate School.

As mentioned, the overall statistics show 880 international students of the 26,854 total student enrollment at UTK. This figure is 3.28% of the total and the guidelines recommend the international head count should now exceed 5% of the total enrollment at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Again, the above figures are well below the recommended limits.

In another section of the guidelines, a recommendation was made that not more than 5% of the total foreign enrollment be composed of students from any one country and a limit of not more than 75 students be enrolled from a particular country. Fall 1983 statistics show that five countries exceed the 5% figure, namely: Malaysia, Venezuela, Iran, India, and Korea. However, only one country exceeds the recommended figure of 75 students from any one country. Malaysian students numbered 85 during Fall Quarter, which is 9.96% of all the international students. (Editor's note: UTK has recently had a large increase in Malaysian applications and admissions as has the entire U.S. This has primarily come about because of Malaysia's new emphasis on sending students to the United States rather than to the United Kingdom as had been their previous policy. When the United Kingdom changed their policy of admission of international students and required them to pay the full costs of their education, many of the developing countries were hard hit by the large increase in tuition and fees in the U.K. Some of those countries have (most notably Malaysia) looked to the United States for meeting their educational needs in the high tech fields.)

The following table includes the top twenty countries at the University of Tennessee in terms of non-immigrant enrollment and the percentage of students within the international population:

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE (%)</u>
1. Malaysia	85	9.96
2. Venezuela	74	8.67
3. Iran	63	7.39
4. India	53	6.21
5. Korea	53	6.21
6. Singapore	40	4.69
7. Taiwan	34	3.99
8. Jordan	29	3.40
9. Lebanon	29	3.40
10. Nigeria	21	2.46
11. China, People's Republic of	18	2.-1
12. Chile	18	2.11
13. Thailand	16	1.88
14. United Kingdom	16	1.88
15. Hong Kong	16	1.88
16. Canada	15	1.76
17. Germany	14	1.64
18. Japan	14	1.64
19. Syria	13	1.52
20. Greece	13	1.52

Further statistical analysis reveals that some departments do, in fact, need to be concerned about international student enrollments within their department. Although this report lists those departments over-subscribed, there are numerous departments that have few if any international students, a situation that is also of concern.

In the recommendations the guidelines state that: foreign undergraduates may comprise up to 15% of the undergraduate majors in a given department and 20% of the graduate enrollment in each school or department. No undergraduate department approaches the 15% figure. In fact, only three colleges even attain a two figure percentile. These include Engineering with 16%; Agriculture with 12%; and Business Administration with a 10% international student enrollment. However, at the departmental level, several graduate units do exceed the 20% figure. Included are not only the percentile but also the raw scores because in some cases the number of students is so low that the addition or subtraction of one student radically changes the percentile figure. The list includes:

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u>
Aerospace Program (UTSI)		23.7
Agricultural Mechanics	1 of 4	25
Food Technology	8 of 24	33
Economics	15 of 50	30
Management Science	4 of 9	24
Foreign Language Education	1 of 4	25
Aerospace Engineering	14 of 59	24
Electrical Engineering	35 of 170	21
Metallurgical Engineering	15 of 37	41
Polymer Engineering	15 of 30	50
Biochemistry	7 of 24	29
Geography	7 of 28	25
Mathematics	16 of 71	23
Physics	15 of 64	23
Management Science	4 of 12	33

Again, it is necessary to emphasize that whereas these figures represent departments that may be slightly over-extended in their international student enrollments, on the other side of the coin there are still numerous departments that have few, if any, international students in their department. Since the guidelines address the need for diversification, it seems inherent that these departments take the necessary steps to attract international students to their departments to help in the diversification of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, student body.