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International Student Enrollment Outpaces National Rate

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Pakistani student Omar Memon feels the University of Dayton's hospitality to international students is "tremendously awesome" to the point he feels like he's been here all of his life.

Perhaps that's why a record number of international students continue to enroll at the University of Dayton. International student enrollment increased 36 percent from a year ago to 604 students and has doubled in the last two years.

That percentage outdistances the national pace. The Institute of International Education announced today that international student enrollment has increased 8 percent nationally. This is the largest percentage increase in international student enrollments since 1980-81 and marks the third consecutive year of significant growth. International student enrollment increased nationwide by 7 percent in 2007-08 and 3 percent in 2006-07.

The IIE said most international students in the U.S. hail from India, China and South Korea, in that order. Most of the University of Dayton's international students come from China, India and Saudi Arabia, in that order.

The most popular fields of study for international students nationwide are business and engineering. Engineering is the most popular field at the University of Dayton.

The University has partnerships with 32 institutions in 16 countries.

The administration, staff, faculty and students recognize the importance and value of internationalization in higher education. "Our University mission calls us to a deep commitment to the development of a rich multicultural environment," said Amy Anderson, director of the University's Center for International Programs. "The University of Dayton is a Catholic, Marianist university and we continue to extend our community to encompass a multicultural and diverse community."

For two straight years, the University of Dayton ranks first in international student satisfaction, according to an International Student Barometer survey, the largest study of international students in the world. The University ranks as the fifth-best university for Chinese students studying abroad, according to Aoji Study Abroad, a student-recruiting agency.

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