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Press Section

American Embassy

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release

Record Number of International Students Attending U. S. Colleges and Universities

According to Open Doors 2011, the annual report on international academic mobility published by the Institute of International Education (IIE) with support from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State, the total number of international students at colleges and universities in the United States increased by 5 percent to 723,277 during the 2010/11 academic year. This represents a record high number of international students in the United States. Increased numbers of students from China, particularly at the undergraduate level, largely accounts for the growth this past year. Chinese student enrollment in the United States rose to a total of nearly 158,000 students, or nearly 22 percent of the total international student population, making China the leading sending country for the 2nd year in a row. According to Allan E. Goodman, President and CEO of the New York-based Institute of International Education, "The United States continues to host more international students than any other country in the world," said Allan Goodman, President and CEO of the Institute of International Education. "Active engagement between U.S. and international students in American classrooms provides students with valuable skills that will enable them to collaborate across cultures and borders to address shared global challenges in the years ahead."

In contrast, the number of Israeli students attending U.S. colleges and universities fell this year by 2.8%. During the 2010/2011 academic year 2,701 students from Israel attended university in the U.S. Arona Maskil, Director EducationUSA Center in Tel Aviv, reports that though the numbers have decreased, the percentage of Israeli students who are outbound to the U.S. is on an increase from the previous year (2009) and the number of students who will be applying for the academic year 2013 will bring us out of the negative. EducationUSA is a non-profit organization supported and sponsored by the Department of State (ECA) and is currently the only official organization in Israel authorized by the United States Department of State to provide counseling to students interested in higher education opportunities in the U.S.
www.fulbright.org.il

Public Affairs Section

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The Open Doors report is published by the Institute of International Education, the leading not-for-profit educational and cultural exchange organization in the United States. IIE has conducted an annual statistical survey of the international students in the United States since 1919, with support from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs since the early 1970s. The census is based on a survey of approximately 3,000 accredited U.S. institutions which host international students. Open Doors also reports on surveys on international scholars at U.S. universities; international students enrolled in pre-academic Intensive English Programs; and on U.S. students studying abroad (since 1985). A full press kit and further details on the Open Doors 2011 surveys and their findings can be accessed on www.iie.org/opendoors, and the full 120 page report can be ordered for \$64.95 from IIE Books at www.iiebooks.org.

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State manages a wide range of academic, professional, youth, sports, and cultural exchanges that include approximately 40,000 participants annually, with the goal of increasing mutual understanding and respect between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. These include, among others, the Fulbright Program, the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship Program, the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program, and the International Visitor Leadership Program. ECA also manages the EducationUSA network of over 400 advising offices worldwide (<http://educationusa.state.gov/>) for students who wish to study in the United States. For more information on the Department of State's educational and cultural exchange activities, visit www.exchanges.state.gov.

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