

22/3/10/11

International Students' Council  
Iowa State University  
223 Memorial Union  
Ames, Iowa 50011

September 19, 1984

To the Board of Regents:

The International Students' Council has been established at Iowa State University to encourage and strengthen communication and cooperation among International Clubs and the University in general. On September 17, 1984, the Council passed a resolution stating that a letter be written expressing serious concern about the proposed tuition increase. Foreign students will be greatly affected by these increases due to the following reasons.

1. Restrictions on money that can be sent to foreign students.
2. Foreign students are ineligible to receive U.S. Federal:
  - i) grants
  - ii) scholarships
  - iii) loans
  - iv) work-study funds
3. Foreign students are prohibited from working off campus for their first year.
4. Visa regulations require students to be enrolled as full-time students.
5. A strong dollar has caused weak exchange rates for many foreign currencies.

"Iowa State University is a broad-based university of international stature. The majority of its students are from Iowa, but every state and more than 100 foreign countries are represented in the student body."<sup>1</sup> Fall semester 1984, there are over 2,000 foreign students and at least 3,500 overseas alumni. Foreign alumni are leaders in agriculture, business, education, government, and labor in their home countries. Increasingly these alumni are looking to the U.S. and Iowa as they purchase consumer and capital goods for themselves, their businesses, and governments. Foreign students are active in educating Iowans about international issues through several on and off-campus programs coordinated by ISU's Office of International Education Services.

While it is understood that inflation requires some rise in tuition, the projected inflation rate in the cost-of-living is 3% to 5%. A 12% out-of-state tuition rate is proposed for 1984-85. The following are reasons why foreign students will be hit harder by a tuition increase than Americans: Many countries have limits on the amount of money families can send to their children in the U.S.; foreign students are ineligible to receive U.S. Federal awards for grants, scholarships, loans, or work-study funds; foreign students are prohibited from working off-campus by the Immigration and Naturalization Service in their first year of study; after a year they must convince the INS that an unforeseen change in their financial circumstances has arisen since they arrived in the U.S.: this procedure often takes three or more

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<sup>1</sup>General Catalog 1983-85, Iowa State University Bulletin, pg. 4.

months and it is not uncommon for permission to be refused; students are limited to working 20 hours per week while school is in session; while on-campus employment can be authorized by university officials, there are a limited number of on-campus jobs; foreign students cannot drop out of school and work full time in the U.S. to make enough money to continue their studies; as a condition of their student visas, they have to be enrolled as full-time students.

The tuition increase falls harder on foreign students because the strength of the U.S. dollar is at record levels. This means that students' home currencies are weaker against the U.S. dollar. For example, in Mexico in 1981 there were 24 pesos to the U.S. dollar and on September 17, 1984, there were 190 pesos to the dollar. A Mexican family sending money to their son or daughter today at ISU would find their money worth only 12% of what it was worth in 1981. Since 1980-81, ISU's out-of-state tuition for graduates has increased 80%, and for undergraduates, 83%. Of course the devaluation of the Mexican peso and other foreign currencies was caused by international economic forces unrelated to ISU's tuition policies; but it is cited as an example of how some foreign students are already suffering severe economic difficulties.

To keep ISU's longstanding commitment to cultural pluralism, it is urged that the tuition increase for out-of-state students match that of in-state tuition. A second alternative would be to increase scholarship funds for needy foreign students.

Sincerely,



Tim Wall  
President, International Students' Council



Dennis Peterson  
Advisor, International Students' Council  
Assistant Director, Office of International  
Education Services



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' COUNCIL

The International Students' Council (ISC) has been established at Iowa State University to promote and advise International Clubs and encourage and strengthen communication and cooperation among International Clubs and the University in general. Exposure of cultures and lifestyles of those countries, which International Students represent, will create a better understanding between American and International Students. Any Club registered with the Office of Student Life (OSL) whose major purposes are to promote and assist the existence of foreign cultures at Iowa State University and/or increase communication between foreign cultures and Iowa State University student body and faculty may apply for membership of the council, and thus, have one representative. Registration with OSL will not automatically grant membership to the ISC. This can only be granted by a 2/3 approval of a quorum of ISC who have to be convinced that the club applying for membership meets the above membership criteria. The International Students' Council will distribute GSB funds which are allocated to International Clubs and be a liaison between International Students and Iowa State University in general.

President: Tim Wall  
British Commonwealth  
516 N. Dakota #40, Ames, IA 50010  
292 0492

Agricultural Engineering  
131 Davidson Hall  
294 1224

Vice-President: Samer Karri  
General Union of Palestinian Students  
P. O. Box 1071 Welch Ave. Stn., Ames, IA 50010  
294 4797

Treasurer: Guru Murti Natarajan  
India Student Association  
609 Pammel Ct., Ames, IA 50010  
296 2699

Secretary: Ephraim Malag  
Filipino Association-ISU  
P. O. Box 2345, Ames, IA 50010  
292 8156

Advisor: Dennis Peterson  
E. O. Building ISU, Ames, IA 50011  
294 1120

There is a mail box in the E. O. building for International Students' Council mail.

Current members of the International Students' Council

Association of Malaysian Students  
African Student Association  
Pakistan Student Association  
Colombian Student Association  
Bangladesh Student Association  
Japanese Student Association  
Turkish Student Association  
General Union of Palestine Students  
Southern Africa Student Association  
Iranian Student Association  
Costa Rican Student Association  
Filipino Student Association  
Nigerian Student Union in the Americas, Inc.  
Singapore Student Association  
Indian Student Association  
British Commonwealth and Irish Student Union  
Peoples Republic of China  
Organization of Arab Students  
Cypriot Student Organization  
Hong Kong Student Association  
Chinese Student Association  
Portuguese Speaking Union  
Sri Lanka Student Association