Meeting the Needs of International Students

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Principal and Chief Executive
Stevenson College Edinburgh

SCE International Prospectus 2010-11

Guangzhou ICELT Teachers, October 2009

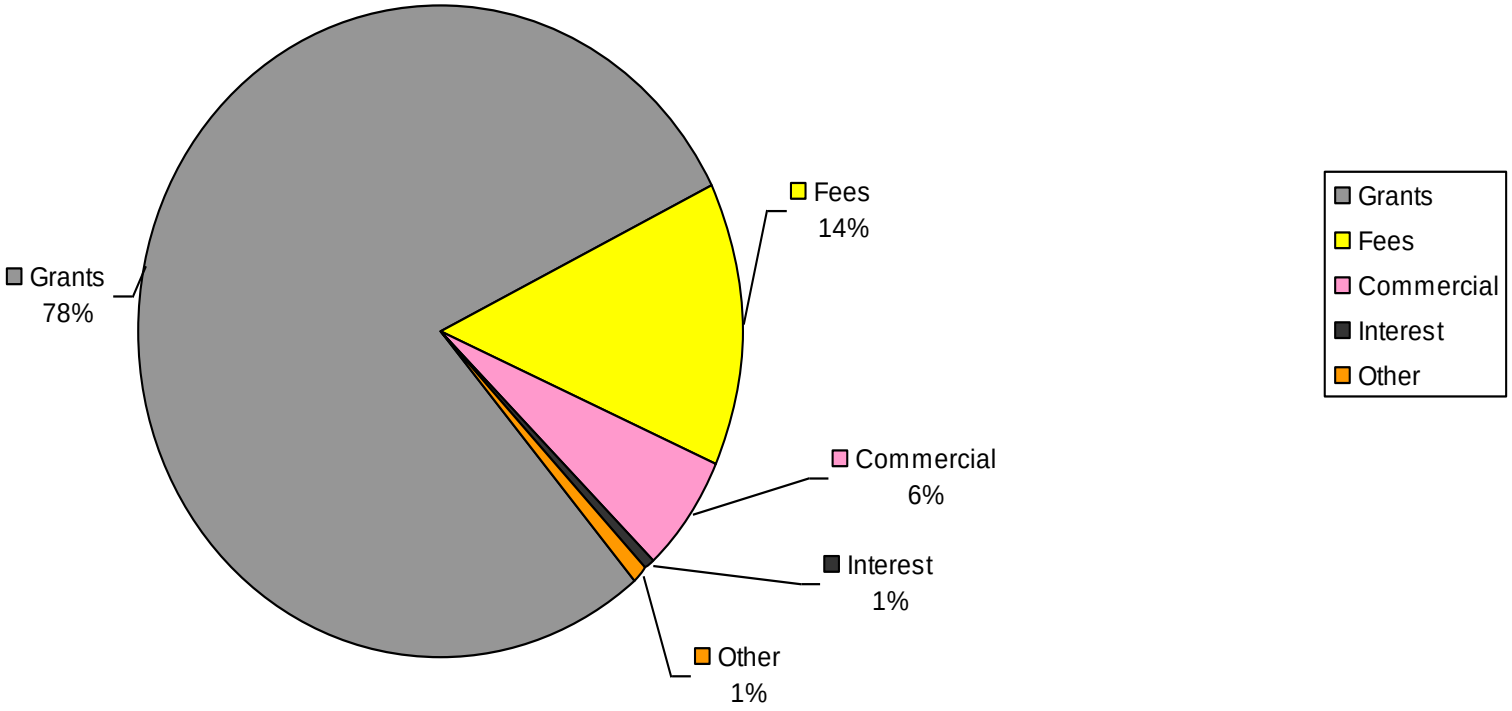
sce
stevenson college edinburgh

The College in Context

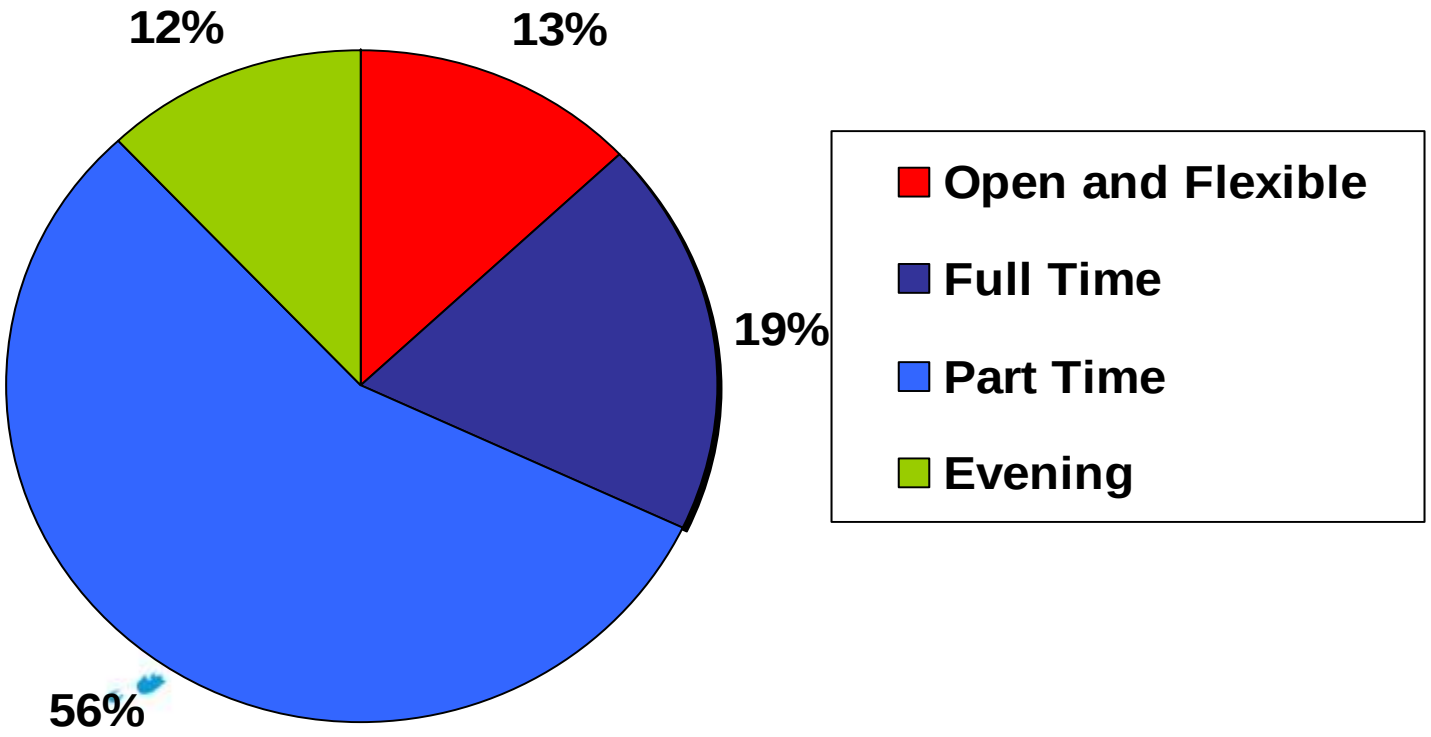
- Established 1969, one of the largest colleges in Scotland
- Five faculties, 18,000 enrolments every year
- Strong, expanding international focus:
  - First international students welcomed over 30 years ago
  - Over 1,000 students from outside the UK
  - Vice Principal member of Education UK Partnership board
  - 11 member International Team
  - International Student Service
  - International Marketing & Recruitment
  - Accommodation Service
  - European Development
  - International Transnational Education and VET projects

The College – Funding 2008/09
Annual Turnover £>26 million

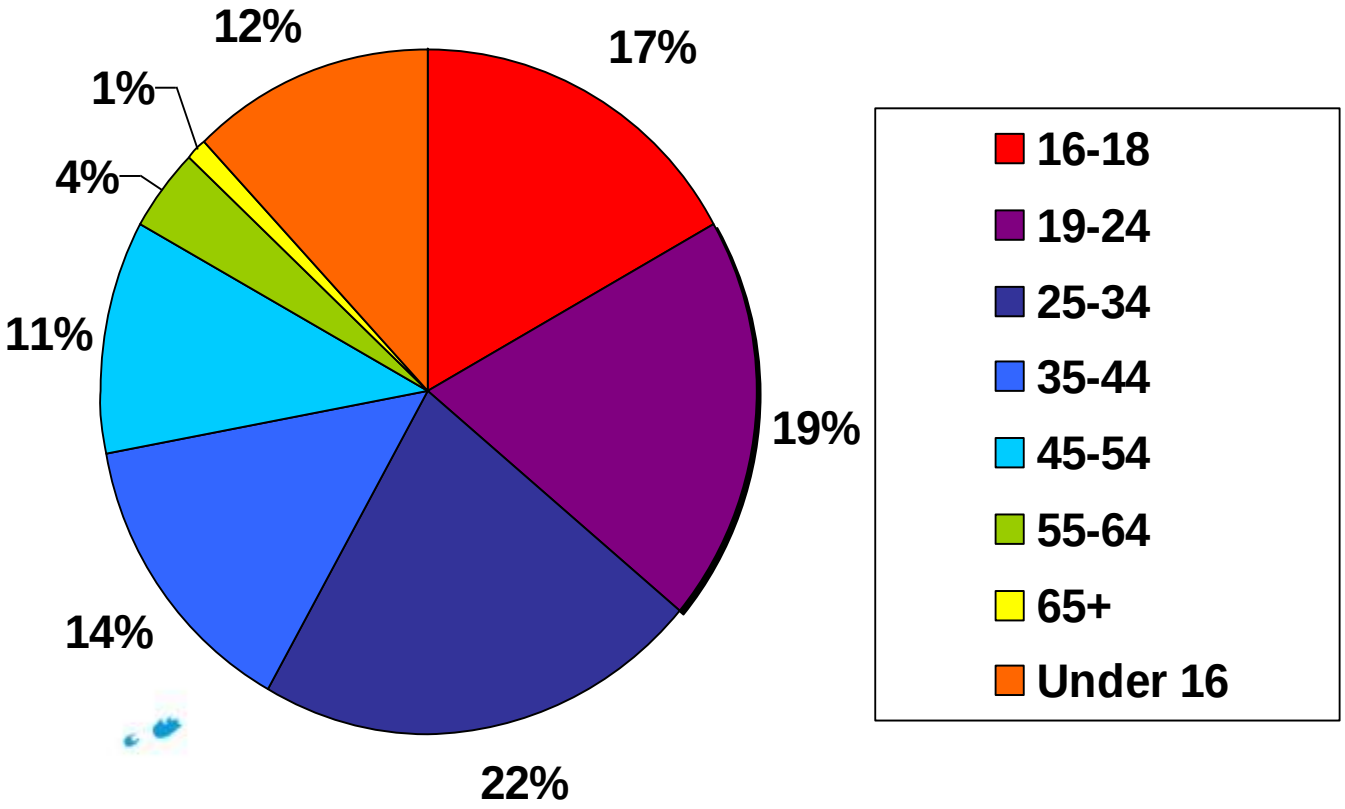
Stevenson College Edinburgh - Income Sources 2008/09



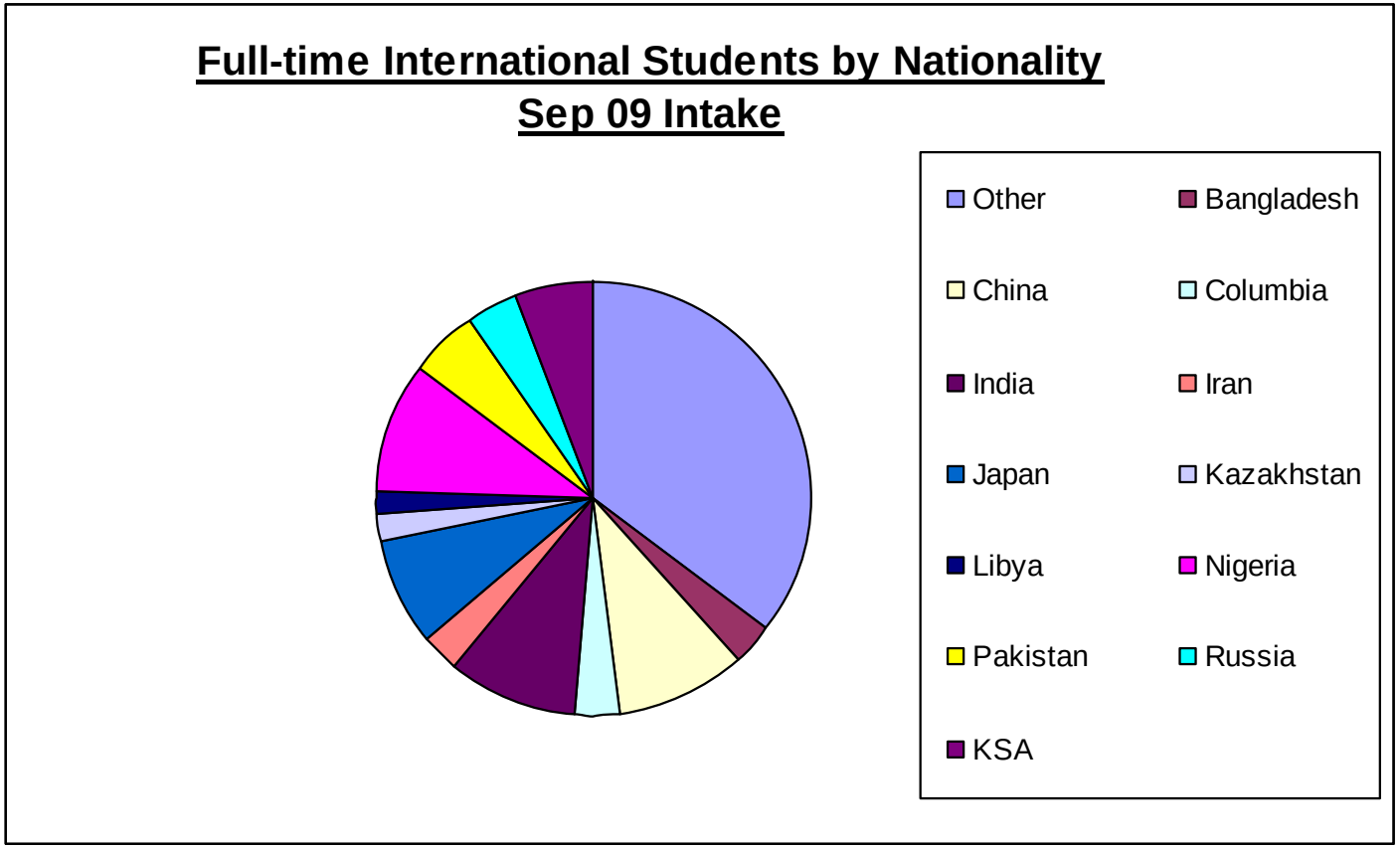
The College – Students - Attendance Profile 08/09



The College – Students (Age Profile) 2008/09



International Development



International Student Support

•International recruitment from across Asia, Africa, Middle East, Far East & Americas

•Courses include English language, HNDs, Foundation Programmes

• Active summer school and in-year groups following professional training programmes (European and International)

• International centre provides one-stop shop from point of enquiry through to arrival and in-session guidance

• Services including homestay accommodation booking; visa application/renewal guidance; welcome & induction programme; social and pastoral guidance; education agent liaison

Current International Activity

- Teacher training/professional development courses for government, British Council and private groups from China, Spain, France, Saudi Arabia
- Annual English language summer school
- International projects e.g. British Council Skills at Work project with Mingachevir Tourism College, Azerbaijan
- Partnership with Shandong College of Commerce and Technology
- Capacity Building in Malawi

Quality Assurance Programme, TVTC Saudi Arabia, July 2009

International Awards

- 2008/9 Association of Colleges Beacon Awards - the British Council Award for International Student Support
- Beacon Award as a benchmark of Stevenson's commitment to international students and supporting them to succeed
- Celebration of award at National AoC Awards Ceremony, SCE award ceremony
- 2008/9 also awarded the 2008 SFEU Award for International Activity
- International Activity Gold Award at Scotland's Colleges Marketing Awards

Local Presentation, Edinburgh

International Student Needs

- Pre-and post arrival in the UK
- Understanding immigration and residency requirements
- Culture shock – different language, accents, environment, food, teaching and learning styles
- Religious or social requirements
- Engagement with home students
- Interaction with students from other countries

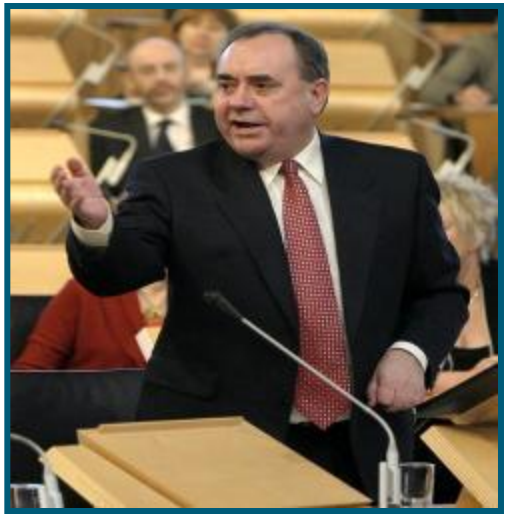
Supporting International Students

- Team effort – International, Faculty staff, homestay hosts, Student Guild working together to provide the optimum student experience
- Academic and pastoral support – in and outwith the classroom
- Integration into College – social events
- Educating College staff to understand international student needs
- Weekly *'What's on in Edinburgh'* updates from International Team to international student community
- Finding out students really think e.g. Learner Engagement Day

International Student Success

- Excellent exam results
- Achievement of College awards
- Contribution to College life – Student Guild Presidents
- Progression to highly-ranked universities
- Recommend their friends to SCE
- Recommend Scotland, and the UK as destinations of choice – Fresh Talent scheme

Transforming Lives: Transforming Scotland



Rt. Hon Alex Salmond,
First Minister

Rt. Hon David Cameron, MP

Rt. Hon Gordon Brown,
Prime Minister

Malawi – August 2009

Soche Technical College, Malawi

Signing of Memorandum of Understanding - September 2009