

"The stress factor on newly arrived students is tremendous. Not only are we they faced with the demands of the university life, they also face separation from family, language and cultural difficulties and also the need to integrate their previous form of education with this type of system."

—P.C. Sartoris, Student Counselling

"Most foreign students are not particularly interested in university life or personal experience. They have come here with strong motives for studying and this is what they do."

—Neil Henry, Foreign Student Advisor

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At first sight a story on Foreign students may seem trite and long since fully explored. From the moment of his arrival the foreign student begins a journey of separation, dominated by study and immersed in cultural shock.

Foreign students are ambassadors from all over the world to Edmonton. Some fit quietly into university life but others stand out. Most come here, complete their studies and leave again, more than we sometimes imagine.

sometimes imagine.

Four-fifths of foreign students come from Third World nations. There are about 1200 on campus, 275 of them in graduate studies. This year the Canadian International Development Agency has paid tuition fees for about 160.

Government agency also pays the student a monthly stipend for living expenses.

Three-fifths are here through private

funding.

At the University of Alberta a foreign student pays the same fees as a resident. This amounts to a saving of about \$2000.

Many students only make friends with their countrymen, never really getting to know Canadians. Language problems is a prime reason. Bonds are formed quickly because of similarity of situations. It is not so easy to meet Canadians as it is to meet...

The Host Family program was created by Student Affairs to break this barrier. Neil Henry, foreign student advisor, describes it as a crude but workable scheme to bring foreign students and Canadians together.

together.

The idea behind it is to introduce foreign students to Canadian families with the hope that lasting friendships will result. However, at the present, there are more students than families in the program.



Major Roland Hooper, dean of men, and Neil Henry.

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