

DOLLARS AND SENSE

COLUMN

Agreement offers jobs, opportunities

By Carole Wiedmayer
■ The Western Front
Western Washington U.

Graduating students will be among the first to face both the opportunities and the challenges presented by the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement.

The landmark agreement between the two countries, while hotly debated in Canada, seems of only passing interest to many Americans.

Perhaps this is because the United States doesn't think it has as much at stake as Canada. We're 10 times their size in terms of gross national product. Three-quarters of Canada's exports come here, while we sell them only one-quarter of our exports.

Viewed in these terms, it seems they have more to gain than we do in terms of untapped markets.

But think again: 70 percent of all United States and Canadian jobs are in the service sector, and the FTA allows many kinds of service businesses to engage in free trade.

It is now possible to apply for Canadian professional and business licenses and open offices in Canada. No longer needed is the tennis racket or set of golf clubs to justify crossing the border.

Canadian Trade Commissioner Peter Fraser, in an April 11 article in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, made some recommendations.

- See what Canada offers, cross the border, or at least pick up some Canadian publications to get a feel for the business climate
- Start networking by going to their conferences and contacting professional organizations.
- Help promote information-sharing about the agreement.
- Read the FTA.

While the agreement represents an opportunity to expand business north of the border, it also will bring increased competition, which is not a bad thing unless we fail to recognize the emerging need to compete with our neighbor to the north.

A little knowledge now could pay off for graduates

CRIME

Conned

Man rooks students out of more than \$3,000 in phony apartment scam.

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BUSINESS

Learning about competitors

Business majors are studying Japanese to understand their foreign competitors and to get an edge over other American business students.

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ENTREPRENEUR

Book on bucks

'Spare Time Cash' gives ideas to help students start their own businesses.

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From homeless shelter to Stanford dorm room

By Janine De Fao
■ The Stanford Daily
Stanford U.

"I don't want all this attention that I'm getting. It doesn't seem like I deserve it. I just want to be an ordinary Stanford student."

Stanford U. freshman Lupe Vasquez considered her childhood dreams exaggerated. She used to wish that she had a house like her classmates, or new clothes. Now, she has more than she ever imagined.

Vasquez, who until fall semester was homeless, has not only found a home at Stanford, but has received national media attention in the process, including being named ABC's "Person of the Week" on "World News Tonight."

Vasquez is one of the few students in the country to attend a major university after being homeless.

Born in Mexico, she lived in a homeless shelter in Oxnard, Calif., near Los Angeles, before she moved into her freshman dorm. Her family moved to the shelter a year ago after being evicted from their small apartment when they could not pay the rent.

At the shelter, Vasquez, her mother, stepfather and four siblings shared one room containing beds and a table. Though her parents spoke no English, Vasquez learned the language

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CHRIS EISENBERG, THE STANFORD DAILY, STANFORD U.

Freshman Lupe Vasquez was homeless until fall semester 1989.

Law students give time, research to prisoners

By Connie Stambush
■ Indiana Daily Student
Indiana U.

On one side of a small table sits a man in his late 30s. It is obvious from his muscles that he works to maintain his physique. But then, he has little else to do.

He speaks in a soft, polite tone to the young woman across from him. He has a problem concerning his prison sentence and needs advice. She listens as he tells his story.

The young woman doesn't give advice at this time, even though he seeks it diligently. She promises to do legal research

to see if she can help.

The woman is not a lawyer. She is one of about 20 Indiana U. law students who volunteer time to an organization called the Inmate Legal Assistance Clinic.

ILAC provides legal advice to inmates at the Federal Penitentiary in Terre Haute. Twice a month, about 10 interns and supervising attorney Betsy Greene travel to the prison to interview inmates who have written for help. Notices posted throughout the prison tell inmates about the program.

The students listen to prisoners' questions and then discuss the cases with Greene, a full-time associate with the Bloomington law firm of Nunn & Kelley.

Greene provides legal advice to the interns and decides which cases to take. She also appoints a student director each year who handles administrative matters.

About 20 students, mostly second-year law students, research the inmate's problems and obtain court records the prisoners may not have access to. Students meet weekly to discuss the cases.

ILAC interns also handle problems prisoners may experience after they are imprisoned in Indiana, Greene said. Many prisoners, arrested and tried in other states, were moved to Indiana

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Expert predicts decline in living standard Blames drop in number of engineering, science graduates

By Max Evans
■ University Daily Kansan
U. of Kansas

The number of degrees awarded to U.S. citizens and permanent residents in engineering and other sciences, particularly at the graduate level, is down across the country, and it may cause a decline in the U.S. standard of living in the next 15-20 years, according to one national expert.

Christopher Hill, senior specialist in science and technology at the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress, said that in general having foreign students is a good thing and shows one of America's strengths, but indicates a domestic

problem.

"I don't see a problem in foreign students getting degrees. But, we're simply not going to have all the folks we need to develop new products and processes, the people who will do the truly path-breaking work."

He added that the United States will have to import that knowledge in addition to products and that the country would have less export profits with which to pay the burgeoning U.S. international debt.

"We've got to make things and sell them," he said. "We owe some \$6 or \$7 billion to someone overseas, and we at least have to pay back the interest."

"Right now, we import more engineers than we do cars — particularly

in the area of faculty. We are now, more than ever, dependent on foreign human resources," Hill said.

In the early '80s, Hill said, interest in engineering "grew like crazy," but has declined over the last few years. He added that the number of degrees in physical science, computer science and mathematics also have dropped.

Tom Mulinazzi, associate dean of engineering at the U. of Kansas, said that undergraduate engineering enrollment was down more than 9 percent from last year. He said that many students perceive engineering as too difficult, leading them to pursue other fields of study.

"Business is perceived as making

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