



University recruitment fair at Abu Dhabi Men's College this week. Ravindranath K / The National

**It enriches everyone's experience to have this bigger mix**

Benjamin Phair  
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of higher education are high, and the qualification is recognised all over the world, so it would hopefully lead to more employment opportunities for the candidate," he said.

He added that scholarships from institutions such as the Emirates Foundation also increase the chances of foreign study.

"Foreign universities like to attract Emiratis because it contributes to their internationalisation strategies," he said, adding that this can include student recruitment and research partnerships with overseas institutions.

The annual Open Doors report by the Institute of International Education reports that in 2008-09, there were more than 1,200 Emirati students in the US.

According to the US Embassy, nearly two thirds of Emirati stu-

dents receiving scholarships this year from the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research will be studying in the US. The last academic year (2009-10) saw a 35 per cent rise in students from the UAE.

The IE Institute in Madrid, which ranked third in this year's Bloomberg Businessweek business school rankings, has seen the numbers of students this year rise from four to 10 per cent, mainly studying the Master of Business Administration (MBA), a programme run in English.

"IE is very international, and the students from the UAE and the region, are looking for this international experience," said Felix Valdivieso, the school's director of communications.