新大今年入学学生
学费调高1000元
未来四学年不再调高

郭韵文 ● 报道

今年入学的新加坡管理大学学生，学费从6500元调高至7500元，涨幅高达15%。不过，他们今后4个学年的学费不再调高。

教务长陈振忠也说，新学费只影响今年入学的本科生，其他在籍学生不受影响。

这是新大连续第二年把学费调高，它在去年首度调高学费至6500元，涨幅同样略高过15%。

新加坡国立大学和南洋理工大学也在前天宣布调高学费。

九分之一学生
可获奖学金

新大校长霍华德亨特（Howard Hunter）教授昨天在记者会上说，新大是私立大学，为学生提供有质量的课程和设施，不仅在市中心开设新宿舍，也从海外吸引著名学府的教授。为了学校的长远发展，调高学费无可避免。

不过，他强调，校方将为贫苦家庭学生提供多方面支持。他透露，9个学生中，有一个可获得新大颁发的奖学金。

此外，它也提供助学金、贷款、半工半读等各种援助计划，协助有需要的学生。

在美国耶鲁大学完成学士和博士学位的亨特校长说，当年他读大学时，在经济上遇困难，幸好获得大学支持。所以，他了解学生的处境，也会尽量帮助他们。

陈振忠也说，由于新大生人数少，讲师可以照顾到每一个学生的需要。班上学生人数不超过40人，让教师可更深入地研究，互相切磋。

他说，新大也提供许多实习、浸濡、交换课程、文化表演和暑期课程，让多数学生到外国接触不同文化。由于学生少，更多学生有机会参与这些活动。

新大招生处主任伍书斌说，新大不仅重视学生的学业成就，也关注他们的人格塑造。校方不但鼓励学生参与课外活动，也要求完成80个钟头的社会服务，这有助于培养学生的自信心与责任感。

明年打算申请新大额的英华初院学生郭尤俊（18岁）受访时说，新大这次调高学费，反映它不断更新，提高素质，是可喜的事。

他说，只要新大继续为有经济困难的学生提供援助计划，就足以让学生安心。

莱初毕业生陈彦伶（19岁）认为，虽然调高学费是无可奈何的事，但新大不应连续两年调高学费，因为它毕竟是个新学府，还未真正出名。

新加坡管理大学坐落在维多利亚街，附近有历史博物馆、美术馆、新加坡艺术学院、南洋艺术学校、拉萨尔—新航艺术学院等学府和文化建筑，目前有4000名学生。
NEW SMU STUDENTS WILL PAY $1,000 MORE
But fees for next four years locked in

Incoming SMU students will pay $7,500, up from $6,500 which is 15% more in school fees but this will be locked in for four years.

SMU Provost Professor Tan Chin Tiong said that the revised fees affect only incoming students in 2006 and current students are not affected.

This is the second time SMU is raising its fees for two consecutive years. Last year, it raised its fees to $6,500 in a similar 15% hike.

NUS and NTU have also announced their new fees two days ago.

1 in 9 students qualify for scholarships

SMU President Professor Howard Hunter explained the reasons for the fee increase at a press conference yesterday. SMU being a private university, providing a premium education for students; building hostels in the city centre, recruiting top faculty from overseas were reasons why a fee increase was necessary for the long-term development of the university.

He emphasized, however, that SMU will provide many types of financial assistance for needy students. Out of nine students in SMU, one will get a scholarship.

SMU also provides assistance schemes like bursaries, study loans and work study grants to help needy students. SMU will ensure that no qualified student will be denied of an education just because of financial difficulty.

The Yale-educated professor shared that he had financial difficulties during his undergraduate days. Fortunately, the university provided assistance. Therefore, he could put himself in the shoes of financially-strapped students.

Professor Tan said that because of SMU’s relatively small size, professors can look into the needs of every student. Classes do not exceed 40 in size and there is greater interactivity for students.

SMU also provides a lot of opportunities for internship, exchange programmes, performances and summer courses to allow students to go abroad for experience. SMU’s small size increases such chances.

SMU’s Director of Undergraduate Admissions Mr Alan Goh said that SMU places its focus not only on academic achievements but also students’ character development. Hence, SMU encourages students to immerse in CCAs and require all to complete 80 hours of community service. This is to build confidence and a sense of social responsibility.

An ACJC student who intends to apply to SMU said that the fee revision reflects SMU’s continued innovation and raising of its quality and is something to be applauded. He said that so long as SMU continues to help needy students, it would be good assurance for them.

A graduate from RJC felt that though fee increase is inevitable, SMU should not have done so for two consecutive years because it is still a young university and has not fully established itself.

SMU is located in Victoria Street and is near to museums, arts centres and many arts schools. It has 4,000 students today.