

by Elaina Loveland

A Place to Call Home

GOING TO COLLEGE CAN BE LIKE finding a new home. On a college campus, the promise of an education is the path toward a new, better life that is filled with potential. Where minds meet, students form their own community, and after a childhood home, a campus is the often the next home for many before beginning their adult professional lives. Both in the United States and abroad, college campuses serve as a home to students that provide them a solid foundation for their futures.

But finding a home on campus isn't always simple.

For some women students in South East Asia, finding a home on campus meant a sacrifice that not many in developed countries would even consider. In "Finding a Home in Higher Education," this issue's cover story, writer Susan Ladika explains the great length that some women in South East Asia have gone to attend a university: for some, a new home meant living in a crawl space below a campus building and sleeping on wooden planks just to attend classes. The options for higher education in parts of South East Asia for women is not a given, but opportunities are improving with assistance from foreign university partnerships to help these women find a campus home whether it is in their own nation or in another country through study abroad.

Even in the United States, finding a home on a college campus can be complicated. For undocumented students who've been raised in the United States—many for as long as they can remember—higher education may be out of reach. Depending on the state in which they live, they may or may not be able pay in-state tuition rates or in some cases, even attend public universities. The federal DREAM Act, which has not been able to garner enough votes for passage, sought to provide these students a sense of home to guarantee them the right to an education like any U.S. student. In response to act not yet passing into law, many states have taken matters into their own hands to try to help undocumented students in their own states find a home on a college campus in their state. In "Keeping the Dream Alive," Christopher Connell provides an overview of the current status of states striving to help undocumented students find a campus to call home.

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