International undergraduate students are increasingly sought after by North American universities as sources of revenue and as marketable exemplars of “the global”. This presentation looks at how such students’ experiences are shaped by relations among co-ethnics. Drawing from a collaborative project at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, it examines how the experiences of undergraduates from South Korea and China were shaped by their fraught relations with co-ethnic graduate students, and with 1st generation and 2nd generation Asian Americans.