

**University at Albany
Fair Trade Resolution**

WHEREAS

- What we choose to purchase, eat, and drink impacts farmers, workers, artisans and the environment;
- Growers of coffee, tea, chocolate and other products produced in Latin America, Africa, and Asia are often paid less than a living wage, and forced child labor may be involved;
- Conventional means of growing coffee and other commodities are often damaging to the environment, harming local ecosystems;
- Fair Trade ensures fair wages, safe working conditions, and environmental sustainability, and prohibits forced labor of any kind;
- Many campus groups around the country and the world already support Fair Trade;
- By becoming a Fair Trade College/University, the University at Albany will demonstrate a commitment to sustainability;
- By becoming a Fair Trade College/University, the University at Albany will more effectively educate the campus community about Fair Trade;
- By becoming a Fair Trade College/University, the University at Albany will inspire other institutions and organizations to support Fair Trade.
- By becoming a Fair Trade College/University, the University at Albany will enhance its image as a leader in sustainability and social justice issues;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the University at Albany should dedicate itself to be a Fair Trade College/University, which would consist of the following:

1. **Dining facilities:** The college/university will work with its food service contractor to make Fair Trade coffee, tea, chocolate, and other Fair Trade products available in its dining facilities, consistent with the terms of food service contracts and where the resulting costs do not significantly jeopardize board rate costs.
2. **Catered events:** The college/university will work with its food service contractor to make Fair Trade products available at catered meetings hosted by the school, consistent with the terms of the food service contract.
3. **Offices:** The college/university will work with its food service contractor and/or office supplier to make Fair Trade products available for administrative and faculty offices whenever possible and consistent with the terms of existing contracts.
4. **Stores:** The college/university will include Fair Trade food products, apparel and handicrafts (such as jewelry, and other gift items) in campus stores whenever possible and subject to the terms of vendor contracts.
5. **Education:** The college/university will support students, staff, and faculty working to increase on-campus awareness of Fair Trade through events, the incorporation of Fair Trade into curricula, and other efforts.

6. **Procurement:** The college/university commits itself to exploring the incorporation of Fair Trade procurement into current purchasing practices and policies. This process will begin within six months after the ratification of this document.
7. **Acknowledgment:** The college/university will identify and promote Fair Trade products at campus functions and stores with appropriate signage or information.
8. **Implementation:** The college/university, in consultation with the (e.g., FAIR TRADE COMMITTEE, CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL, etc.) will oversee the implementation of the above commitments.

Mary Ellen Molle

passed May 2019

Name

Date

Title

Director of Sustainability, University Senator

(College / University President)