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MANDATE

Fairtrade

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Student Senate notes:

Maynooth University, as an important consumer and opinion leader, should research, develop, and support a strategy to facilitate the promotion and purchase of foods with the FAIRTRADE Mark in order to pursue sustainable development and to give marginalised producers a fair deal.

Student Senate aims:

To have Maynooth University recognised by students, staff, and the wider community as a university that actively supports and promotes Fairtrade and to increase the sale of products with the FAIRTRADE Mark.

Student Senate therefore mandates:

MSU, through the MSU President, to contribute to the campaign to increase sales of products with the FAIRTRADE Mark by striving to achieve Fairtrade status for Maynooth University as detailed in Fairtrade Mark Irelands Campaigns Initiative.

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Appendix 1

The initiative involves a commitment to:

- Widely offer FAIRTRADE Marked food and drink options internally and make them available for internal meetings.
- Promote the FAIRTRADE Mark using Fairtrade Mark Ireland's materials in refreshment areas and promoting the Fairtrade Towns initiative in internal and communications and external newsletters.
- Use influence to urge on campus retailers to provide Fairtrade options for residents.
- Use influence to urge various departments to offer Fairtrade options to their staff and promote the FAIRTRADE Mark internally.
- Allocate responsibility for progression of the Fairtrade College initiative to a member or group of staff.
- Assist in the organising of events and publicity during national Fairtrade Fortnight - the annual national campaign to promote sales of products with the FAIRTRADE Mark.

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Appendix 2

Become a Fairtrade University

The Five Steps to Change Your College Over to Fairtrade

1. A Fairtrade Group is established in order to maintain the college's certification

- Ideally should consist of both Staff & Students, can be associated with a club/society.
- It is also possible to join your local Fairtrade Town/City Campaign instead.
- Group organises event(s) during Fairtrade Fortnight.
- Group organises the launch for the official change over to Fairtrade.

2. Get the college authorities to adopt a Fairtrade Purchasing Policy, in order to commit to staying with Fairtrade with all catering tenders.

- Fairtrade tea & coffee is served at management offices and at all meetings hosted by both the university/college and the Student Union.
- See example of motion below!

3. FAIRTRADE Mark Coffee is predominantly served in all* cafés/restaurants/bars on campus. Fairtrade Tea, Cocoa & sugar are welcome additions.

- Talk to the catering manager and ask if they have heard of Fairtrade, suggest a coffee morning serving Fairtrade tea and coffee and showing a short video about Fairtrade.
- Ask the catering manager to contact the coffee company they deal with and place the Fairtrade order, there are more Fairtrade coffees available than ever in Ireland ie Starbucks, Bewley's, Java Republic among many others.
- Where this is not possible, there must be a commitment to begin to use FAIRTRADE coffee in these establishments as soon as it becomes possible to do so.

4. At least 4 FAIRTRADE Mark products are available in all retail outlets on campus

- This must include a Fairtrade coffee, a Fairtrade tea, a Fairtrade chocolate, and preferably Fairtrade bananas**
- FAIRTRADE Mark products in vending machines are welcome additions as well as Fairtrade cotton merchandise (t-shirts, sweatshirts, tote bags)

5. There is a commitment to campaign for increased Fairtrade consumption on campus and to promote Fairtrade during Fairtrade Fortnight, which runs annually for the first 2 weeks in March. See page 3 for examples of events you can hold.

**In the case that there is an outlet on campus not serving Fairtrade coffee still under contract, exceptions can be made so long as there is commitment to attempt to replace this outlet with a Fairtrade option upon contract tender/renewal*

***If Fairtrade bananas cannot be sourced then the fourth item can be another coffee, tea, chocolate or other retail item*

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Appendix 3

Example of events to hold during Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade Chocolate Tasting

- We are lucky that there is a lot of Fairtrade chocolate sold in Ireland. You could organize a chocolate tasting and perhaps invite one of the chocolate companies in Ireland to come and talk about Fairtrade and chocolate production.

Fairtrade Barista

- Many coffee companies that supply Fairtrade coffee also offer barista training and coffee courses. You could arrange a barista training using Fairtrade coffee and begin your event with a discussion about Fairtrade so that participants understand where their coffee comes from and how important the farmer is to the barista.

Fairtrade Speaking Opportunity or Debate

- During Fairtrade Fortnight, we typically invite two producers to visit Ireland from the developing world to speak about their experience with Fairtrade and the difference it has made to them and to their communities. They are available to speak at various events throughout the fortnight and if you apply early enough you can have one of them speak at your university. We might also suggest organizing a debate around Fairtrade as it's a great and lively way to inform people of two different mindsets about the myriad benefits of the organization.

Film Screening

- There are many films that exist that inform about commodities in the developing world and are widely popular. A film screening of one of these films about for example the coffee or banana industry could be followed by a discussion and action plan for the Fairtrade steering group.

T-Shirt Sale

- There are some Fairtrade cotton suppliers in Ireland that your group could order shirts from with a university-specific slogan or campaign slogan 'We are a Fairtrade college' or something a little catchier of your creation. You can sell the T-shirts and use the proceeds to host a coffee morning or make another campaign around Fairtrade.

Fairtrade Coffee/Tea Event

- The Steering group or club/society who supports the Fairtrade movement at the University/College can plan a Fairtrade coffee/tea morning or a Fairtrade afternoon tea and serve only Fairtrade beverages and treats. It can be as simple as chatting to attendees about Fairtrade or as involved as having a little presentation and handing out pamphlets.