

UGSU Fairtrade Policy

Background

In 2006 the Students' Union (the SU) contributed towards the University of Gloucestershire (the University) being awarded Fairtrade University status. Since this time the Students' Union has continued to support Fairtrade both through the products we procure and the campaigning and education that we undertake. Our aims have been that:

1. The University of Gloucestershire Students' Union will be a Fairtrade SU and will work with the University of Gloucestershire to ensure that we continue to fulfil the goals required of a Fairtrade University.
2. We will play a key role in educating students, staff and Executive Officers within the SU and the University as to the existence, purpose and reasoning behind Fairtrade.
3. We will raise awareness of the FAIRTRADE Mark and what it means.
4. We will aim to make Fairtrade part of the "culture".

Products

In order to ensure that we are committed to Fairtrade we must use as many Fairtrade products in our organisation as is practicable. We aim to do this by.

5. The SU will *only* purchase Fairtrade tea and coffee for staff, Executives and visitors.
6. The SU sells clothing and where practicable ensures that clubs and societies purchase playing kit which is manufactured by ethical organisations e.g. Uni Outfitters and Kukri. At the next tender round, the SU will endeavour to appoint a supplier with Fairtrade status.
7. The SU will continue to explore other Fairtrade items can be sold through our premises and used in-house.

Education and Campaigning

8. The SU will include at least 2 articles relating to Fairtrade within the student newspaper, Space, each academic year.
9. The SU will have up to date information regarding Fairtrade within the sustainability pages of the SU website.

10. The Fairtrade mark will be included within the mast header of each page of the SU website.
11. The SU will hold at least one event each year aimed at raising awareness of Fairtrade.
12. The SU will lobby and campaign when necessary to ensure that the caterers appointed by the University stock Fairtrade products where possible and also promote the brand.
13. In addition the SU will ensure that it promotes Fairtrade Fortnight to all of our student membership.
14. The annual Executive elections will be used as a tool to raise awareness of the Fairtrade culture. Candidate and Campaigners' TShirts supplied by the SU will be Fairtrade and the Fairtrade mark will be used on all promotional material.
15. The SU will work closely with the relevant societies to campaign for increased Fairtrade consumption within the University.

Delivering, Monitoring and Reviewing

16. All staff and officers of the SU will be expected to play their part in ensuring Fairtrade becomes part of our culture.
17. Leadership for Fairtrade will be provided by the SU's Environment & Sustainability Executive, the Trustees and the Chief Executive. The SU will send at least one representative member to every University Fairtrade Steering Committee.
18. The Trustees and Senior Management Team will monitor the implementation of the SU Fairtrade policy and coordinate work with the University in furtherance of our expressed mandate to campaign to continue our Fairtrade University status.
19. The SU Trustees will review this policy on an annual basis to ensure it supports the strategic plan of the SU.

Updated Dec 2011