A Resolution of the University of San Diego’s Fair Trade University Steering Committee

WHEREAS:

· Farmers and producers of agricultural and trade goods from developing countries such as coffee, bananas, chocolate, sugar, tea, vanilla, and spices often do not receive fair prices or wages for their products and labor.

· Farmers, artisans, and workers in developing countries are often subject to harsh working conditions, and forced child labor is prevalent in some nations in the production of goods that we consume.

· The University of San Diego, a Catholic Institution founded in 1949, seeks “to develop ethical and responsible leaders committed to the common good who are empowered to engage a diverse and changing world,” and the university also has embraced the Catholic moral and social traditions “to serve with compassion, foster peace, and to work for justice” in the effort “to fashion a more humane world.”

· The University of San Diego was designated by Ashoka U as a “Changemaker Campus” in 2011 in recognition of the university’s faculty, staff, and students’ important work towards social change.

· The University of San Diego continually demonstrates effective research models, teaching, and service that has “changemaking for building more sustainable and socially just societies at its core.”

· Fair Trade is a logical and ethical solution to the injustice that pervades international trade, and requires fair prices and wages for producers and workers, safe working conditions, transparent trading practices, and environmental sustainability.

· By declaring itself a Fair Trade University the University of San Diego can further its mission of developing compassionate leaders who are committed to social justice and sustainable societies.

BE IT RESOLVED: The University of San Diego declares itself to be a Fair Trade University and commits to the following:

1. Dining facilities: The university, working with its auxiliary services, will continue to make Fair Trade Certified coffee, tea, and chocolate available, as well as increase the diversity of Fair Trade Certified products in its dining facilities and stores.

2. Catered events: The university, working with its auxiliary services, will work to make Fair Trade Certified coffee, tea and other items available at catered meetings hosted by the university.

3. Offices: The university will encourage the use of Fair Trade Certified coffee, tea and other items for use in university offices whenever possible.

4. Stores: The university commits to include and increase the sale of Fair Trade products such as handicrafts, jewelry and clothing at the USD Torero Store.
5. Education: The university commits to integrate Fair Trade information and education into the programs and culture of the school, in order to ensure that the principles of Fair Trade continue to be part of the policy and social fabric of our community.

6. Acknowledgment: The university will identify and acknowledge Fair Trade products at university functions and stores where appropriate (e.g. with appropriate signage).

7. Advocacy: The university commits to actively support student groups, organizations and university offices which seek to promote the Fair Trade movement on campus and in the larger community.

8. Implementation: The university, in consultation with its auxiliary services, the USD Torero Store, and the USD Fair Trade Committee will oversee the implementation of the above commitments.

The University of San Diego's Fair Trade Steering Committee will work to embed Fair Trade principles and practices within the social and academic culture of the campus community by hosting Fair Trade events, encouraging greater product availability, promoting education of Fair Trade in classrooms, and implementing other learning modalities.

It is hereby resolved that the University of San Diego declares itself a Fair Trade University.