

Coffee at Columbia

What we are asking:

As of now, Columbia's vendors (Dining Services and Starbucks) only offer students coffee produced by companies that pay its growers sweatshop wages and destroy rainforests. Yikes! We need a better choice, now!

Why Coffee:

- Coffee is the U.S.'s second largest import--after oil
- The United States consumes a fifth of all coffee produced in the world
- Starbucks owns a fifth of all cafés nationwide
- Every day an average of 450 million cups of coffee will be swilled in the U.S.
- More than 500,000 farmers around the world produce and sell more than 32 million pounds of coffee each year through the fair trade network.
- Fair Trade certified coffee is sold in over 35,000 supermarkets in Europe, as well as the European.

Transfair USA, a non-governmental organization that certifies "Fair Trade Coffee," has put forth the following standards for ethically grown beans that we are asking Columbia to consider. These include: Fair wages, healthy work environments, environmental sustainability, respect for worker's cultural heritage, and others.

Please consider and sign our petition to show your support for ethically produced coffee at Columbia!

