

To: The University at Albany Community

From: Carlos Santiago, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Re: New University Anti-Sweatshop Policy

It gives me great satisfaction to report that the University at Albany has adopted a new policy aimed at ensuring that goods bearing University insignia, and certain other goods purchased by the University itself, are not produced under sweatshop conditions.

The new policy is an outgrowth of the work done by the Task Force on Sweatshop Labor that President Hitchcock established in April 2000 and reflects, in part, changes in state law that enable the University to align its purchasing practices with its commitment to social justice.

The new policy affects the University's purchase of textiles, apparel and sports equipment in particular, and incorporates in the decision-making process two key features: the Statement of Principles for Worker Rights that was developed by the Task Force on Sweatshop Labor and the requirement that the purchase of any emblematic textiles, apparel or sports equipment must be from companies licensed by the Collegiate Licensing Company.

I am especially grateful to the student, faculty and staff members of the Task Force on Sweatshop Labor, led by School of Social Welfare Dean Katharine Briar-Lawson. The Task Force carefully examined the issues and through its work, particularly in developing the Statement of Principles for Worker Rights, is helping the University achieve its goals in this important area.

More information about this policy is available [here](#).