

TKU Students Learn About Direct Trade Through Coffee Beans

【Jia-ling Liu, Lanyang Campus Report】 The Department of Global Politics and Economics invited founder of The Lightened, Annie Huang, to speak on fair trade through her experience opening a coffee shop in Taipei. She expressed that all of the coffee beans at her shop arrive through direct trade from small farms of Haiti, Kenya and Panama. She pointed out that by doing direct trade with the farmers instead of going through distributors, farmers are able to make 20 times as much profit.

Annie Huang also mentioned that she trades more than just coffee, but also clothing through AIM (Alternative Investment Market). The clothing is made in Cambodia and then used for school and hospital services. Annie finished by encouraging students to be diligent and enthusiastic about life in order to cultivate their true potential. Second-year student of the Department of Political Economics, Yuan-ting Luo, expressed, “Annie Huang has a lot of great ideas and she uses her gifts to help the less fortunate. This was great learning for us.”

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