



THE CO-OP RETURNS TO WSU

Australia's largest member-owned retailer partners with Western Sydney University

Strengthening their partnership with Australian universities, the Co-op is set to operate six general book and retail outlets at Western Sydney University.

The Co-op used to operate stores at what at the time was the University of Western Sydney. The return demonstrates the strength of The Co-op's offering and is further evidence that The Co-op are Australia's number one on-campus retailer.

Opening in early January 2017, The Co-op will soon offer the students of Western Sydney University a quality range of tech, lifestyle products, games and gifts. Students will also be able to enjoy fresh coffee, gourmet sandwiches and an array of sweet treats via select in-store cafés. The Co-op stores will open at Parramatta South, Bankstown, Campbelltown, Penrith (Kingswood), Richmond (Hawkesbury) and Blacktown (Nirimba) in time for the new semester.

Established in 1989, Western Sydney University is ranked in the Top 400 universities in the world and 19th in Australia. The new partnership will give over 40,000 students the opportunity to join the Co-op's membership program. All profits are returned to the members through unique savings as well as the sponsorship and support of on campus activities, including the Indigenous Literacy Foundation and AIME. Membership costs a one-off payment of \$25 and lasts a lifetime. Savings can be as much as 50% off and enjoyed immediately after signing up.

Thorsten Wichtendahl, Chief Executive Officer, stated "We are thrilled to return to WSU and extend our member value proposition to their students. We stand to offer cheaper textbooks and a large range of products to suit the needs of everyone on campus."

About The Co-op:

- Australia's largest member-owned retailer with over 2 million members
- Australia's largest campus retailer
- Over 60 stores nationwide
- The Co-op has the largest textbook buyback program in Australia, purchasing back over 12,000 titles
- 2016 National Retail Association Employer of the Year Award Finalist
- 2016 National Retail Association Training Excellence Award Finalist
- 2016 National Retail Association Young Retailer of the Year Award Finalist

Australian Geographic Partnership:

- Co-op has partnered with Australian Geographic Retail since acquiring the brand in September 2016
- An iconic brand known for learning and discovery
- 64 stores nationwide and successful online store

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For further information on the Co-op please contact Kelly Cross at: kcross@coop.com.au