

March 4, 2021

Amir Nadav
Assistant Director
Office of Sustainability Initiatives
University of St. Thomas
2115 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105
USA

Dear Amir,

This is an affirmation that I have reviewed the University's STARS report to be submitted this month to AASHE. My, and our, process was as follows:

I completed a first review of your preliminary credit reports and marked, using the STARS Review Template, each credit with a first review status. For some credits I noted inconsistencies, errors, questions and outstanding accomplishments. After several video conferences with you and after you responded with corrections and additions via written notes in the Review Template, I returned to various credits to mark their final status. In some cases I marked a second review status and made further comments, after which you responded before I was then able to assign a final status. In a final discussion we confirmed that we had successfully addressed all unresolved issues.

I have worked on campus sustainability issues periodically over the past twenty-five years, first as a funder, in my work with the State of Minnesota, for the creation of the Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability. Subsequent work on Minnesota's sustainability standard for cities and K-12 schools - GreenStep Cities and GreenStep Schools - has brought me back in touch with college campuses and their sustainability potential.

The broad and deep sustainability accomplishments reported in the STARS submission are indeed impressive, more so because the Office of Sustainability Initiatives has only had a full-time campus sustainability staff person for three years. Other colleges and universities in Minnesota with which I am familiar have had many more years to achieve such accomplishments. My compliments to you in helping bring UST's values into action on campus. I have enjoyed working with you and being another set of eyes on your work, and wish you and the University all the best as you continue along the road to greater campus sustainability.

Philipp Muessig
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