

Innovation Credit Letter

November 11, 2016

To whom it may concern,

It is my pleasure to officially endorse University of Social Innovation Hub as a fulfillment of the STARS Innovation Credit.

As director of the Social Innovation Office, and the founding director of the Social Innovation Hub, I am proud to guide a couple of initiatives closely related to the sustainability goals of the University of Arkansas.

I hold a doctorate in international politics and development from the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver, and was the founder of the Social Entrepreneurship Program at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas. I am a member of a UNESCO Steering Committee on the Sustainability of Peace, and I am currently developing a comprehensive social enterprise program designed to benefit refugees at UNHCR settlements.

It is my professional opinion that this is a huge milestone for the University of Arkansas and hopefully more universities to come. The idea is to foster a social enterprise culture of innovation and collaboration as a way to offer viable and sustainable solutions to the pressing social and environmental problems of our time. We want to foster innovation, creativity and solidarity through a network of specialists, entrepreneurs and activists in the field, while promoting the active participation of our students as agents of positive, effective and productive transformation.

Therefore, it is in my professional and personal opinion that the Social Innovation Hub is a serious sustainability commitment and an innovation practice. In my opinion, it greatly exceeds the highest criterion of an existing STARS credit or is not covered by an existing STARS credit.

Sincerely,



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