

February 27, 2024

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee,

It is my pleasure to present Pratt Institute's AASHE Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) Report, for the academic year 2022-2023.

First, let me confirm the accuracy of the information provided in the Pratt Institute STARS submission. The data in this report is a summary of our commitment to sustainability, which continues to grow through: Our Strategic Plan drives our academic planning which weaves climate literacy throughout our research and pedagogy, through the development and implementation of the Master Plan which provides a roadmap to the decarbonization of our campus, and our historic commitment to assist our community partners in Brooklyn and beyond. The mechanism for collecting a tremendous amount of data is through our Sustainability Center and the network of Sustainability Coordinators which is becoming a national model.

As the President of Pratt Institute, I am especially proud of our accomplishments, and I am dedicated to continuing to grow our commitment to sustainability in a comprehensive and cohesive manner. This past year Pratt Institute became a co-founder of the New York Climate Exchange which was selected by New York City after a lengthy competitive process to create a new hub for research, education, policy development and the acceleration of new designs and technologies to help address climate change. Our partners include Stony Brook University, Georgia Tech, Pace University, University of Washington, IBM, BCG, and Good Old Lower East Side (an environmental justice organization). This is a profound milestone for Pratt and our community in pursuing climate resilience and being able to combine our expertise and resources with those of these major institutions.

Through the tireless work of our institution's Pratt Sustainability Center and other key stakeholders across campus, we have improved and streamlined our documentation and reporting over the past 4 years of submission, achieving STARS Gold last year, and have utilized this data to identify areas of success and areas for improvement. Our long-term commitment to environmental sustainability through engagement is exemplified in our yearly Pratt Earth Action Week events each Fall and Spring. In addition, through the collective work of our Departmental Sustainability Coordinators, more and more departments are including sustainability Learning Objectives, courses, and content into their curricula. The number of courses that include content related to sustainability increased by 257% since 2017. As part of our Campus Master Plan process, we have completed an energy use study and substantial infrastructure electrification projects. We are close to completing a roadmap for decarbonization of our campus and have already implemented numerous components of the sustainable infrastructure.

It is not always simple advocating and practicing sustainability in an independent college of art and design but it is now more imperative than ever that the creative fields help envision and realize a future that preserves our environment, fosters collaboration, leads energy initiatives and helps ensure our survival. To this end, we recently launched the Partnerships for Academic Leadership in Sustainability through our engagement with the Association of Independent Colleges of Art & Design. With AASHE's continued support and guidance, Pratt Institute hopes to increase the role of the creative fields to be a driver of environmental, social, and economic sustainability thought, practice, and action.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frances Bronet". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a period at the end.

Frances Bronet
President