



Re: STARS Program Submission

To whom it may concern,

The RiverMobile project at the University of Dayton Rivers Institute has given students the opportunity to share their passion of sustainability and effective utilization of natural resources. The RiverMobile is a 53-foot semitrailer that has been converted into a mobile museum focusing on the abundant water resources that surround the University of Dayton. The trailer is taken to local schools and festivals to educate the community about the responsibility of protecting our natural resources. River Stewards, the student component of the Rivers Institute, volunteer to lead groups through the multiple exhibits.

Students played pivotal roles throughout the entire development of the RiverMobile. Many planning meetings were held with staff, faculty, and community members from all disciplines to create a unique learning experience. Instead of being heavily based in science education, students worked to insure many academic disciplines would be represented throughout the exhibits. Through the design process, we were unable to benchmark any other colleges and universities that were implementing an interdisciplinary approach to teaching sustainability. We proudly represent a small group that has been able to create a mobile unit to travel throughout the community. Since its completion in January 2013, the RiverMobile has educated over 2500 community members.

I began working on the RiverMobile in the summer of 2011 as a Rivers Institute student intern. In this unique role, I worked on benchmarking other sustainability education programs through universities and museums. Upon my graduation in May 2012, I became a Graduate Assistant in the Rivers Institute focusing on the completion and implementation of the River Mobile project into the community. The project's fulfillment and continued presence in the community displays the University of Dayton's dedication to sustainability education.

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