November 23th, 2023

STARS Steering Committee

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

Ctra. Panamericana S 19 / Villa EL Salvador 15067

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am delighted to submit the Universidad Científica del Sur's application for the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) recognition. Our journey towards this milestone has been a testament to our unwavering commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Our story begins with a dedication to making a meaningful impact on our campus and the world. Over four consecutive years, commencing in 2019, we embarked on a transformative mission—to measure and understand our carbon footprint. This journey started with a simple question: How can we build a more sustainable, equitable, and diverse campus community? The answer lay in quantifying our environmental impact and setting the stage for a more responsible future.

In the aftermath of the pandemic, we reactivated the Environmental Operations Committee, igniting a rapid evolution in our approach to sustainability. This committee has worked tirelessly to establish guidelines and standards aimed at ensuring the replicability, measurement, and success of our sustainability initiatives. Since 2022, we convene every two months, providing a platform for monitoring, evaluation, and continual refinement of our environmental management strategies. Our focus remains resolute, spanning waste management, greenhouse gas emissions measurement, efficient energy and water usage, and our quest for perpetual improvement.

At the Universidad Científica del Sur, sustainability is not just a goal; it's an integral part of our history and mission. We are honored to have received the National Sustainability Award for four consecutive years, a recognition that has established us as a national reference in sustainability within Peru. However, we understand that true progress never rests. It's our unyielding appetite for improvement that now drives us to apply for programs such as AASHE's STARS. Our goal is to expand our portfolio of sustainable activities on campus, bridging international best practices and collaborating with like-minded institutions, all working together for a more sustainable future.

Our commitment to sustainability extends beyond a mere desire for recognition; it's part of our institutional DNA and our pledge to future generations. This application is not just paperwork; it's the embodiment of our dedication, and we see it as an opportunity to further align with the STARS community, engage in best practices, and collectively advance the cause of sustainability in higher education.

I affirm that the information presented in our STARS application is not just data; it's a representation of the Universidad Científica del Sur's story of transformation and unwavering dedication to sustainability.

Sincerely,

Luis Cardo Gerente General Universidad Científica del Sur