

GOSHEN COLLEGE  
*Office of the President*

February 3, 2014

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee,

We are pleased to once again, verify the information submitted on behalf of Goshen College to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability to Higher Education (AASHE) for the Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS).

This is the second cycle that Goshen College has submitted our assessment data, the first being in January 2011 as one of the first participants in the STARS program. Since that time Goshen College has continued to advance the cause of sustainability by continuing to reduce our carbon footprint. Between 2008 and 2012 the campus has reduced its carbon footprint by an estimated 22%. In the spring of 2013, we went the further step of purchasing 100% of our electricity from renewable sources through the procurement of renewable energy credits.

This report will show that since our first submittal that Goshen College has added numerous courses to our curriculum with an emphasis on sustainability and environmental responsibility. The campus has also taken nearly 20% of its lawn space and converted it to native plantings and prairie restoration. We have developed our food composting system, planted a community garden, built a solar hot water collection system, and continued to reduce our energy consumption campus-wide.

This cycle, students from the *Roots of the Environmental Crisis* class took the various subsections of the STARS checklist to analyze Goshen College's sustainability achievements. By taking this approach, along with assistance from paid student interns, we were able to better promote our sustainability efforts on campus and involve a large number of students in the process.

We are grateful to AASHE for developing STARS as a useful tool to assess our current status in regards to sustainability and to assist us in setting goals for the future. We are fully committed to becoming a climate-neutral campus as part of our larger mission of "healing the world peace by peace."

Sincerely,



James E. Brenneman  
President