



FURMAN

January 24, 2011

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee,

I am pleased to affirm the accuracy of all the information provided in Furman University's initial STARS submission is an accurate and comprehensive reflection of our institution's sustainability efforts. Furman is proud to be a charter participant in this comprehensive self-assessment.

This initial STARS submission is another benchmark in the university's ongoing commitment to sustainability. Over a decade ago, Furman's Board of Trustees embraced sustainability as a core value of the university. Since then, Furman has completed an innovative sustainability master plan, *Sustainable Furman*; set a goal of carbon neutrality by 2026; founded the David E. Shi Center for Sustainability, an academic center devoted to advancing the study and practice of sustainability on campus and in the greater community; built the first LEED-certified building in South Carolina in 2003, which was LEED-Gold; and just this fall, approved a new undergraduate major in Sustainability Science. We are excited about sharing our efforts with the higher education community through this STARS submission and the opportunity to learn from the experiences of other institutions. We are also proud of the progress the university continues to make, and look forward to achieving STARS Gold in the near future.

We would like to thank everyone from the university community who contributed to the collection of this data through their time and effort. We would especially like to thank Peter Soder '11, who served as a Mellon Student Sustainability Fellow during the summer of 2010 and spearheaded much of the early data collection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Rod Smolla".

Rod Smolla
President
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RAS:rl