Channel Islands
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Jose Chanes
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Dear AASHE STARS Program Staff,

This letter serves as affirmation that California State University Channel Islands Propagation House meets the criteria for the AASHE STARS Innovation Credit. It is a project that will address several aspects of sustainability on our campus.

Plant propagation is a common method of growing trees and shrubs from stems, cuttings, and bulbs. The process requires a structure which consists of a series of sections that allow different amounts of light to permeate. These sections are necessary to allow for proper growth at different stages in the propagation process. The Vegetation Propagation Project presents the opportunity for CSU Channel Islands to grow native vegetation for campus use, reduce campus expenditure, promote campus sustainability efforts, and allow for student involvement.

Implementation of the Propagation House allows for a decrease in campus expenditure on trees and shrubs every year by propagating them ourselves, as well as minimizing the environmental and financial impacts of transportation of the plants. The propagation house utilizes solar power for air circulation as well as solar thermal technology for warming of the roots of young plants. The project also allows for students of all disciplines to become involved by obtaining service learning by working with grounds crew member in the propagation operation. Students associated with university programs such as Biology and Environmental Science & Resource Management will be afforded the opportunity to develop and implement independent research that incorporates plant propagation.

CSU Channel Islands is committed to improving sustainable practices throughout the campus and community, while continuing to reduce negative environmental impact. Thank you for consideration of this credit in the STARS Innovation category based upon our unique approach to set precedence for similar activities on campus in the future.

Sincerely,

Jose Chanes
Associate Director of Infrastructure and Energy