



# Middlebury

Middlebury College  
Middlebury, Vermont 05753

February 18, 2014

Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Middlebury College's 2014 STARS application. Middlebury has taken an innovative approach to starting a new internship program for students interested in local food and sustainable development, both in rural and urban settings. The program, FoodWorks, began in Louisville, KY in the summer of 2012 and expanded the following summer to Vermont.

The FoodWorks internship program provides a meaningful consulting experience for Middlebury students interested in food studies. 26 students participate in the 9-week long paid program with housing. Students work in city and state government, business and retail, publishing and marketing, non-profits, and on farms. Issues being addressed include microenterprise and economic development; education, health, and nutrition; food production, processing, and distribution; food access, safety and security; food equity and social justice; sustainable agriculture; and food policy.

Students spend four days working with a local company or organization and come together as a class on the fifth day to work on presentations and projects relating to the local food system and economic development. An online component allows interns in KY and VT to connect across sites and compare their urban and rural experiences. Students also receive mentoring from Middlebury alumni and parents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amy Gibans McGlashan".

Amy Gibans McGlashan  
Special Assistant, Center for Careers and Internships

CC/cc