

February 26, 2021

Meghan Fay Zahniser, Executive Director
Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
401 Walnut Street, Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Ms. Zahniser,

Dickinson College is pleased to submit our STARS 2.2 report, documenting our continuing sustainability efforts and achievements. The report has undergone thorough and independent internal review and I affirm that the report is an accurate accounting of our sustainability performance.

The COVID-19 pandemic, racial violence, political violence, financial recession and other events of 2020 have strongly impacted the Dickinson community, as it has our nation and the world. Dickinson's commitment to sustainability, a strategic priority of the college, provides ways of thinking and acting that are helping us to respond, innovate and create opportunity amidst the current challenges and reach our aspirations for building a sustainable and just society.

Advances that we have made within the last three years include:

- Attaining carbon neutrality in 2020, a goal that we set for ourselves more than a decade ago.
- Developing a 3-megawatt solar field at Dickinson Park through a power purchasing agreement to generate zero-carbon electricity equal to nearly one-third of our electricity needs.
- Opening a LEED Platinum residence hall, the first platinum residence hall in Pennsylvania.
- Playing a leading role in bringing residents and organizations of greater Carlisle together through the Carlisle Community Action Network to create a more sustainable, resilient and equitable community in response to the COVID-19 crisis and other challenges.
- Graduating three classes of students—2018, 2019 and 2020—all of whom completed at least one sustainability course and over 50% of whom completed four or more sustainability courses during their four years at Dickinson.
- Engaging our students in work with the Borough of Carlisle to measure community-wide greenhouse gas emissions, enact a resolution to cut emissions to levels consistent with the Paris climate agreement and launch local climate action planning efforts.
- Deeply engaging our student and faculty artists and arts enthusiasts with sustainability through innovative performance and visual art projects.
- Hosting *BE.Hive on Campus: Climate Change Needs Behavior Change*, a higher education summit that brought 400 sustainability professionals, behavioral scientists, alumni and students to Dickinson from across the nation in fall 2019.

These and other achievements are documented in our STARS report. The process of preparing the report entailed numerous conversations across the college that have added to our understanding of where we have made progress and where there is more work to be done. We are proud to be a member of AASHE and are committed to working with others in higher education to advance sustainability goals.

Sincerely,



Margee M. Ensign
President