

WASHINGTON AND LEE
UNIVERSITY

Lexington, Virginia 24450-2116

Office of the President
(540) 458-8700

June 23, 2011

STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
213 ½ North Limestone
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

I write to affirm that Washington and Lee University's submission for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) is, to the best of my knowledge, an accurate representation of our current practices, policies, and standards.

W&L intends to use the STARS analysis as a format to gather baseline data and to guide and allow us to prioritize our future decisions related to sustainability initiatives on our campus. The completion of the assessment tool in and of itself raised awareness among a large constituency, but I am especially pleased to report that under the guidance of Sustainability Education Fellow, Laura Henry Stone, the bulk of the data collection was completed by our own W&L students. At the completion of their work the students presented their preliminary findings and recommendations in an oral presentation to our University Sustainability Committee. To that end, we are already reaping great benefits by utilizing the STARS tool.

We appreciate the initiative that AASHE has undertaken to provide this valuable tool and welcome the streamlining that AASHE is pursuing with other organizations that strive to assess the sustainability outcomes of our colleges and Universities.

Sincerely,



Kenneth P. Ruscio