



Office of Public Affairs & Communications  
2 Whitney Avenue ~ New Haven, CT 06510

June 22, 2011

Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, & Rating System  
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

To Whom It May Concern:

In the fall of 2010, Yale University joined with the City of New Haven, the New Haven Public Schools, and the Community Foundation of Greater New Haven to launch New Haven Promise, an innovative, community-wide program to support college-going by New Haven high school graduates.

Yale University is funding the scholarships for New Haven students to go to college. Qualified applicants will receive grants for the full tuition for in-state public colleges and up to \$2,500 per year for independent, non-profit colleges. Yale University's commitment will grow to up to \$4 million per year. Full information on the program can be found at <http://promise.nhps.net/new-haven-promise.php>

The City, Yale and the Community Foundation all see New Haven Promise as a catalyst for more than increasing high school graduation and college-going rates. They expect it will encourage more families to remain in and move to New Haven and inspire more young people to prepare to succeed in careers in the city's strong and growing base of educational and medical institutions and bioscience companies.

On behalf of Yale's participation in AASHE's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and System, I affirm that the New Haven Promise Initiative meets the criteria for innovation credits.

A natural extension of Yale's philosophy to admit students for academic and personal promise, regardless of their ability to pay, this initiative will provide all students from the city of New Haven an opportunity to further their education. Yale is proud to participate and fund a program that helps build the community's strength and capacity and its long term sustainability.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss this initiative further. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Morand".

Michael J. Morand  
Director of Metro, State & Alumni Communications