

Yale OFFICE OF FACILITIES

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Dear Members of the STARS Steering Committee,

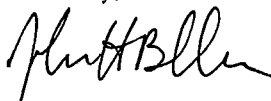
On behalf of Yale University, I am pleased to submit the results of our campus-wide assessment of sustainability programs and activities for the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking Assessment Rating System (STARS). I also affirm this report to be an honest and accurate appraisal of our sustainability activities and accomplishments.

Yale has been committed to addressing climate change since 2005, when the university put forth a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 43% by 2020. Since then, the University has committed to carbon neutrality by 2050. The University has issued three Sustainability Strategic Plans, the first in 2010, the second in 2013, and most recently, the Yale Sustainability Plan 2025, which launched in 2016. The Yale Sustainability Plan 2025 expands on the previous two Plans—which were focused exclusively on operations—to include the University’s academic mission, and prioritizes leadership in sustainability teaching, research, service, and operations. Through this Plan, Yale is committed to finding greater efficiencies in energy use; the design and maintenance of resilient buildings; ensuring sustainable consumption and disposal patterns; and engaging the Yale community in making sustainable choices.

The scope of Yale’s dedication to sustainability and the environment is broad, and continues to expand. Recent sustainability successes include co-convening the Hixon Center for Urban Ecology’s annual conference, which focused on universities partnering with municipalities, and the formation of a Carbon Offsets Task Force, which is developing a set of guiding principles for the purchase and creation of carbon offsets towards the University’s greenhouse gas reduction commitments. In addition, Yale managed a process to begin a comprehensive accounting of Scope 3 emissions, and held its 14th annual Spring Salvage to reduce undergraduate waste from moveout.

Yale University is proud to participate in the AASHE STARS program, and we look forward to learning about our official STARS rating.

Sincerely,



John Bollier

Vice President for Facilities and Campus Development
Yale University