



Office of the President

P. O. Box 3300 • Somerville, New Jersey 08876-1265

August 4, 2011

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of Raritan Valley Community College, I am pleased to submit the results of our campus-wide sustainability assessment for the AASHE Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS). I affirm that this is an accurate assessment. As a charter institution for STARS, RVCC is pleased to support such a comprehensive campus sustainability program while at the same time assessing and evaluating our own sustainability practices. This process has been invaluable in gaining perspective on our strengths and challenges as we strive to become a more sustainable institution.

Raritan Valley Community College is a public college serving New Jersey's Somerset and Hunterdon counties. With a suburban campus situated between two tributaries of the North Branch of the Raritan River, and with a growing population of over 8,000 full and part-time students commuting to campus, RVCC faces significant sustainability challenges. As shown in the STARS assessment, RVCC is facing these challenges head-on. RVCC has reduced its scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions by almost 40% since 2005. RVCC was the first community college in the nation to sign an agreement of environmental stewardship with the EPA (2009). RVCC's actions to date have earned a very solid Bronze STARS rating, the first STARS rating in New Jersey.

RVCC's plans for additional sustainability improvements in the coming year include more firsts for our campus: a solar installation, electric car charging stations, a green roof, and a LEED Gold student center complete with a greywater system.

RVCC's 2008-2012 strategic plan emphasizes the importance of campus diversity and affordability, and we are pleased that the STARS program recognizes our accomplishments in these areas. In the updated strategic plan for 2013-2017, expect to see a high-level focus on sustainability in other areas as well. And expect to see RVCC earn a STARS Silver rating or higher! We have work to do, and I thank the STARS program for helping us focus our efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Casey Crabill".

Dr. Casey Crabill
President