



University Housing
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WISCONSIN'S POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

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April 21, 2014

Re: STARS Innovation Credit Letter: Ames Suites & Lydecker Living Learning Center

Dear STARS Review Committee,

As the former Director of Residence Life at UWRF, and now Director of University Housing at UW-Stout, I am writing to reinforce the innovation credit value of the Ames Suites & Lydecker Living Learning Center (LLC), completed in 2013 and now serving as truly unique and exemplary template for other campuses.

Ames Suites and the LLC is a LEED Gold certified residence hall and multi-purpose space and extension physically linking the two newest and largest suite-style residence halls on campus. Residence hall students committed to a room rate increase in order to bring the LEED Gold building to campus as an example of a sustainability-based residence hall and living learning laboratory for educational programs, conferences, workshops, retreats, and other programmatic functions.

From the beginning, the project was immersed in a sustainable campus community development context, always striving for best design and management practice in form and function around residential living, academic performance, and other high impact outcomes.

There are a number of features of the project that are innovative and unique including, but not limited to:

- ✓ Photovoltaic roof panels used to heat domestic hot water
- ✓ A green kiosk which highlights the sustainability features of the project and allows students to compare energy usage between buildings in real time
- ✓ Storm water management plan that includes rain gardens and permeable surfaces.
- ✓ Construction waste management and the use of local, regional and sustainable building materials

While I am sure that there are certainly other residential campus projects across the country that are unique and admirable for their own distinct reasons, there are few that bring the holistic nature of sustainability-based design to the UW System and our region the way that this one does.

I fully support the request for Innovative Credit for this project.

Please let me know if you have concerns or questions about the truly innovative nature of this project. I can be reached at 715-232-2131 or at duexs@uwstout.edu.

Sincerely,

Sandi Scott Duex, Director
University Housing
University of Wisconsin - Stout

