



Office of the Chancellor • 116 North Hall • (715) 425-3201 • Fax (715) 425-3304 • dean.vangalen@uwrf.edu

January 11, 2012

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

Dear STARS® Steering Committee:

On behalf of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, I am pleased to present and affirm the results of the 2012 Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System.

Sustainability is an integral part of our mission, vision and values at UWRF. Our commitment is evident through such efforts as our participation in the American Colleges and University Presidents' Climate Commitment, participation in STARS®, the development of the St. Croix Institute for Sustainable Community Development, and the continued development of sustainability curriculum and programs to educate tomorrow's leaders in state-of-the-art sustainability values, principles, and practices.

UWRF's participation and rating in STARS® provides an excellent opportunity to guide our efforts across campus to address sustainability issues in concert with other university initiatives. The results from this assessment are already being used as a primary framework for drafting our sustainable campus community plan and have helped to foster collaboration between many different departments across the university.

As we look to the future, our role as an institution of higher education is to provide a broad educational base for our students that remains relevant to their needs while continuously adjusting and evolving to meet the needs of the incoming classes of students, our community region, and society at large. Being a charter participant in this benchmarking initiative further drives our commitment and re-affirms the dedication that runs through our students, staff, faculty, and community.

Sincerely,

Dean Van Galen, Ph.D.
Chancellor