



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 21, 2018

To the AASHE STARS Steering Committee and staff:

Agnes Scott College is very pleased to enter our second STARS submission on June 21, 2018. By signing this letter, I am affirming that the information submitted is an accurate and comprehensive summary of our sustainability efforts since beginning the program in 2007.

We are delighted to report that the college's current score ranks us at the STARS Gold level. Despite this increase in our score, we know there is always room for improvement with our sustainability programs. Going through the STARS process this year has helped us focus on setting new goals for the next three to five years.

Since signing the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment in 2007, Agnes Scott has:

- Set a goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2037 and reduced emissions of scopes 1 and 2 by over 30 percent to date;
- Installed a quarter megawatt of solar power and two geothermal HVAC systems;
- Pioneered the use of a Green Revolving Fund, raising \$1 million from donors to invest in energy and water efficiency;
- Developed an interdisciplinary environmental and sustainability studies minor with the number of students declaring the minor doubling in the past two years;
- Created a Center for Sustainability, unique for a college of our size, which works to integrate sustainability into both the college's operations and its curriculum, and houses at least two full time staff and five or more student interns and volunteers during each semester.

Most notably, since submitting our first STARS report in 2012, Agnes Scott has made impressive strides in the category of Academics. In 2015 the college launched its distinctive and groundbreaking approach to liberal arts education, SUMMIT, which prepares each student to become a global citizen and effective leader. The new SUMMIT curriculum has provided a creative framework for our faculty to integrate sustainability into their courses, and as a result 74% of our academic departments now offer sustainability-focused or related courses. I would like to congratulate the Center for Sustainability staff on their thought leadership in providing the resources to

SUMMIT to achieve this alignment and successful partnership between these two signature programs of the college.

Thank you again for providing the excellent guidance of STARS – it is truly a model for tracking institution-wide change in higher education.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Kiss". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end of the name.

Elizabeth Kiss, President