



Allen L. Sessoms  
*President*

February 18, 2012

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education  
1526 Wynkoop Street, B500  
Denver, CO 80202

Re: University of the District of Columbia STARS Submission

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to submit the University of the District of Columbia's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System report to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. I affirm the accuracy of UDC's report as an honest appraisal of our sustainability performance. Though UDC's sustainability initiative is young, our initial STARS rating represents an excellent foundation on which we plan to build.

UDC is proud to serve as a STARS Charter Participant. Given our role in society, colleges and universities have an incredible opportunity to lead in addressing social, environmental, and economic challenges. To do so, institutions of higher learning must start at home, embodying the ideals of transparency, honesty, and accountability.

STARS has provided a comprehensive framework for evaluation, reporting, and planning. It will help guide future decision making to enable UDC to be a more effective and relevant university in an environment when higher education institutions must justify their existence and adapt quickly in order to meet student demand, and ultimately, the needs of society. To meet those needs, UDC intends to provide our students with an academic environment in which they can adopt a personal commitment to sustainability that they keep for a lifetime.

As an urban-serving land-grant institution, sustainability is rooted deeply in our mission. We firmly believe that a comprehensive, inclusive approach to sustainability is critically important. UDC will continue to measure and evaluate our performance not just in terms of environmental impact, but also in terms of social and economic impact. I thank AASHE and the STARS leadership for emphasizing the need for holistic sustainability that goes beyond green and beyond the edge of campus.

Sincerely,

Allen L. Sessoms

*Celebrating 160 Years of scholarship and achievement - 2011*