

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

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April 7, 2015

STARS Review Committee:

This letter confirms support for the University of California Santa Cruz 2015 Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) submission.

I am proud of our achievements. Dedication to sustainability is shown in many areas, including "water" and "transportation". The strong governance structure we have to support sustainability will continue to help the campus make progress in areas where additional opportunities are available such as "purchasing" and "public engagement", as defined by the STARS report.

It is important to recognize that numbers alone can not describe the rich history of Sustainability on our campus. For example, the points achieved under "energy", do not reflect the role UC Santa Cruz played in the system-wide purchase of renewable energy and our campus's instrumental pioneering role in the area of sustainable agriculture and food justice as evidenced by the work of the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems. Numbers also fail to capture the amount of square footage on campus that is not LEED-certified but is operated to LEED standards.

I am especially grateful to the many staff members and students that helped gather, analyze and compile this data. It is a laborious process, but one that helps the campus continue our sustainability efforts.

Sincerely,

George Blumenthal

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Chancellor