GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

Alan G. Merten
President

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August 5, 2011

Mr. Paul Rowland
Executive Director
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)
1536 Wynkoop Street
Suite B500
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Rowland:

George Mason University takes pleasure in submitting its 2011 Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) Report. This report contains a comprehensive review of the sustainability efforts taken throughout the university and is, to the best of my knowledge, an accurate representation of our current practices, policies, and standards. Along with the students, faculty, and staff at George Mason University, I am proud that we scored a Silver rating. It is a testament of the progress we have made in sustainability.

As one of the largest institutions in Northern Virginia, and one of the largest and most diverse public universities in the state, Mason has a responsibility to promote sustainable practices for the benefit of the university, surrounding communities, the region, and the world. As a premier higher education institution, we prepare future leaders with the knowledge and values to create a more stable, equitable, and healthy future. With our extensive research leadership in the areas of sustainability, climate dynamics, civil engineering, ecology, geology, and other earth and social sciences, we bring together the best scholars and researchers to advance research that address these complex problems.

At Mason, we are committed to meeting the challenge of local and global stewardship. We see a sustainable and fruitful future for Mason as a climate-neutral and low-ecological-impact institution. Use of the STARS tool has provided a valuable assessment of our progress, our strengths, and areas where we can further improve.

We appreciate the work being done by AASHE to advance sustainability in higher education.

Sincerely,

Alan G. Merten

AGM/ylct