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October 28, 2020

Chris Pelton
AASHE STARS Program Manager
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
2401 Walnut Street #102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Mr. Pelton:

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is proud to share its sustainability progress and accomplishments with the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). This submission, our fourth AASHE STARS report, reflects the hard work and commitment of students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Since submitting our last STARS report, we have:

- Launched *Carolina Next: Innovations for Public Good*, a comprehensive strategic plan that focuses on diversity and inclusion, student success and career development, discovery, promoting democracy, benefitting society, globalization, and optimizing operations.
- Adopted a new *Ideas in Action Curriculum* for undergraduate students matriculating in fall 2021. Learning outcomes include: Explain human and environmental challenges that transcend national borders; Recognize the relationship between inequality and social, economic, and political power; Identify, assess, and make informed decisions about ethical issues at the intersections of the sciences and society.
- Contributed to global research advances in understanding infectious disease, including COVID 19, developing the next generation of solar cells, and modeling resilient communities and storm surge impacts.
- Appointed a new Chief Sustainability Officer, who is also a professor and the director of the UNC Institute for the Environment, and reimaged and launched the Carolina Sustainability Council. The council will form four committees to set goals and track progress, integrate with other programs at the University, foster innovation, and tell the University's sustainability story.
- Pursued the Three Zeros Environmental Initiative to achieve water neutrality, greenhouse gas neutrality, and zero waste. UNC has reduced its potable water use in campus buildings by 60%, its energy use by 36%, and achieved a waste diversion rate of 42%.

As a global public research university, UNC is committed to offering an accessible and excellent educational experience. Our students seek the experiences and knowledge to tackle grand challenges

that society faces and sustainability is clearly among those challenges. We are committed to efficiently and transparently stewarding resources, focusing on population health and prosperity, and serving as an economic powerhouse for North Carolina by conducting transformative research and graduating students prepared for the new economy.

I am pleased to share our AASHE STARS 2.2 report with you and appreciate your role in supporting campuses interested in transparently and objectively assessing their sustainability progress. To the best of my knowledge, this report is complete and accurate. The data gathering effort was led by our Sustainability Office and reflects the contribution academic units and administrative offices across campus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin M. Guskiewicz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Kevin Guskiewicz
Chancellor