

October 6, 2011

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

Dear Mr. Rowland:

On behalf of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK), I am pleased to submit our Sustainability, Tracking & Assessment Rating System (STARS) report. The report contains a comprehensive review of sustainability efforts taken through the university and is, to the best of my knowledge, an accurate representation of our current practices, policies and standards. The data collection process was truly an exercise in collaboration which will help us to strengthen our institution and better understand campus sustainability best practices.

As the preeminent research-based, land-grant University in the State of Tennessee, UTK has a responsibility to lead academic and public service activities that benefit the public good. We prepare leaders with the knowledge and values to advance economic, social, and environmental development. With our nationally ranked programs, as well as our partnership with Oak Ridge National Laboratories, we bring together the best scholars and researchers to tackle the complex issues of the 21st Century.

Thank you for providing us the means by which to benchmark our campus sustainability efforts. We are proud of our STARS Silver rating and look forward to using the data to set targets and monitor progress towards our sustainability-related goals.

Sincerely,


Jimmy G. Cheek
Chancellor