Letter of Affirmation STARS Innovation Credit February 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

The use of AASHE's STARS as the primary evaluation means for the 2014-2019 Strategic Directives set forth by the Chancellor of Appalachian State University is both unique and innovative for academic institutions. The Strategic Directives clearly outline how each initiative's success will be evaluated by corresponding metrics in STARS. The level of emphasis on STARS in the University's Strategic plan is unprecedented by similar institutions.

The inclusion of STARS at the uppermost level of institutional planning shows Appalachian State's efforts to use the STARS metrics to their fullest intent. Here STARS is used not only as a framework for quantifying progress, but also as a tool for shaping policy. The progress made in achieving these Strategic Directives will be measurable through this innovation and help to realize the goals set for sustainability by Appalachian State University.

Sincerely, UNC Chapel Hill Sustainability Director Cindy Shea