

June 5, 2015

AASHE
1536 Wynkoop St., Suite 901
Denver, CO 80202

To whom it may concern:

As Chancellor of Appalachian State University I proudly submit this Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System report to the Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. Appalachian's provisional STARS 2.0 rating is 75.2 - a gold designation. Appalachian's STARS report team has a demonstrated history of diligence and tactical precision, and I am confident our score accurately represents the sustainability efforts and values of Appalachian.

Appalachian supports sustainability at the highest level. Our 2014-2019 Strategic Plan is entitled "The Appalachian Experience: Envisioning a Just and Sustainable Future," and uses STARS as a metric for our adherence to and success in executing the plan. Our mission statement, as defined in our strategic plan, is to prepare students to lead purposeful lives as engaged global citizens who understand their responsibilities in creating a sustainable future for all.

Sustainability at Appalachian is not a trend, it is a tradition. We are active stewards of our state's interconnected financial, cultural, natural, and human resources. Through engaged scholarship, we balance critical, creative and global thinking in a living laboratory, transforming theory into practice and fostering responsible citizenship.

Located in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Appalachian is a place of great beauty and cultural and recreational opportunity. The mountains inspire an appreciation for the traditions of the region as we connect to and learn from the world. The green ethos at Appalachian infuses academic programs, environmental stewardship, research, and a community with an attitude of care for the planet.

As you review our report, I am confident you will find our data underscores our commitment to sustainability. We embrace our obligation to help create healthy, just, and sustainable societies by equipping our students to live with knowledge, compassion, dedication, humility, and dignity.

We appreciate and respect AASHE for its leadership in furthering sustainable transformation in higher education and thank you for your guidance.

Sincerely,

Sheri N. Everts
Chancellor
Appalachian State University