

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
**UNIVERSITY**

April 7, 2014

Ms Lea Lupkin  
Sustainability Program Manager  
GreenerU, Inc.  
Engineering Campus Energy & Sustainability Solutions

Dear Ms Lupkin,

I am pleased to write this letter of support for the Botanic Garden of Smith College's application for their sustainability assessment. The Botanic Garden of Smith College has a long and continuing commitment to plant conservation and sustainability. Founded in 1894, and located on a campus developed in 1875, the living plant collections contain many old trees. Stewardship of these trees and all of the plant collections is supported by the garden's comprehensive collections policy, operations manual and procedures and though the use of a sophisticated database, GIS, and visitor interpretation. This database has been made available online through the multisite based at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, Scotland as a resource to the world, especially other botanic institutions involved in plant conservation. The living plant collections are augmented by collecting and growing seed representing trees from their wild, native threatened habitats in two campus nurseries. At the campus level the Botanic Garden engages student involvement in all aspects of the tree collection and propagation at the institutions two nurseries. The botanic garden has been recognized for its excellent by obtaining Level 3 ArbNet certification.

The Botanic Garden of Smith College is committed to supporting and carrying out the best practices associated with sustainability. I highly recommend they receive certification.

Sincerely,



Frank W. Telewski, Ph.D.  
Professor and Curator



**Campus Planning  
& Administration**

**W. J. Beal Botanical  
Garden**

412 Olds Hall  
East Lansing MI 48824-1047

517-355-9582  
fax: 517-432-1090