

January 15, 2016

Ms. Meghan Fay Zahniser Executive Director AASHE 2401 Walnut Street Suite 102 Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Ms. Zahniser:

On behalf of the university community, I endorse and submit the University at Albany's second STARS report. We have been striving to incorporate sustainability in our curriculum, operations, research, and engagement since the inception of our program in 2008. We welcome the opportunity to formally assess our efforts through STARS as it is an important piece of our public commitment portfolio to a sustainable future, joining Second Nature's Carbon Commitment, the UN Declaration on Sustainable Practices in Higher Education and the American Campuses Act on Climate Pledge.

I am willing to affirm the accuracy of the work completed by our campus community under the coordination of Dr. Mary Ellen Mallia, our Director of Environmental Sustainability, and am pleased that we have improved on our past performance to achieve a STARS Gold rating under version 2.0. This report will provide us with an invaluable tool to gauge our current efforts, chart our path for improvements, and inform our future strategies.

We appreciate the work done by AASHE and by the hundreds of other colleagues in higher education who share our commitment to creating a better future through sustainability.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Jones President