

July 10, 2013

Office of the President
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Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
213 ½ North Limestone
Lexington, KY 40507

Re: STARS submission for Rochester Institute of Technology

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to affirm the accuracy of the information contained in Rochester Institute of Technology's Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) submission. The STARS reporting process has enabled RIT to comprehensively examine our sustainability efforts. It has highlighted areas in which we excel as well as opportunities for improvement. This initial submission will serve as a baseline against which we will measure our future progress. Sustainability is one of RIT's top priorities, and with the variety of new initiatives already underway I fully expect our next STARS submission will earn a Gold rating.

In April we held the grand opening of our Sustainability Institute Hall, a state-of-the-art facility powered by the sun, the wind, and fuel cell technology, and home to the Golisano Institute for Sustainability. With one of the world's first Ph.D. programs in sustainability, as well as master's degrees in sustainable systems and sustainable architecture, the institute conducts cutting-edge research in nanotechnology, alternative energy development, and sustainable design. This past spring we also completed a major energy efficiency project that replaced more than 20,000 florescent lamps with custom LED tubes; this project is estimated to save RIT more than \$300,000 per year via reduced energy and maintenance costs. We are also realizing significant reductions in waste generation in our dining units thanks to student and staff-led initiatives. In addition to our continued commitment to LEED construction, our newest buildings enable occupants to understand their real-time energy use through a building dashboard system. We look forward to seeing how this data will continue to be used by our students and faculty to drive academic projects and future campus improvements. With every new initiative our campus's enthusiasm for sustainability grows.

I am proud of how much we have accomplished thus far, but there is still much work to be done. I would like to thank the many members of the RIT community who have contributed to this report; it was a truly collaborative effort.

Sincerely,



William W. Destler, Ph.D.
President, Rochester Institute of Technology
ACUPCC Steering Committee