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YEARS
1861-2011

June 1, 2012

STARS Technical Review Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability for Higher Education (AASHE)
213 ½ N. Limestone, Lexington, KY 40507, USA

To Whom it May Concern:

I serve as the Campus Sustainability Fund (CSF) Outreach Coordinator and am writing this letter of affirmation in support of the CSF at the University of Washington. This innovative program began with a student campaign in the 2009-2010 academic year where a team of dedicated students gathered more than 5,500 student signatures in support of establishing a student green fee, as well as more than 30 endorsements from student organizations across campus, including the undergraduate and graduate student senate. The fund was successfully established in the spring of 2010 with the announcement that nearly $340,000 would be allocated from the Services and Activities Fee to the Campus Sustainability Fund for the 2010-2011 academic year. The fund was subsequently awarded $300,000 for the 2011-2012 academic year and will receive $330,000 for the upcoming 2012-2013 academic year.

More than 75 higher educational institutions have established similar funds, yet the CSF is unique in the way the fund is structured and implemented. While the majority of student green fees directly fund the purchase of renewable energy and carbon offsets, the CSF at the University of Washington directly funds student led and designed sustainability projects on campus. Additionally, the Fund is allocated by a committee of seven students, making the CSF a true student green fee. The students involved in the committee and in the projects which receive funding are gaining valuable skills while helping to create a more sustainable campus. The CSF has helped transform the campus into a living laboratory where students can have a direct impact in the way the campus functions on a day to day basis.

Sincerely,

Katie Stultz
Campus Sustainability Fund Coordinator
Class of 2012, Community Environment & Planning
(206) 221-0391
uwcsf@uw.edu

www.uw.edu