November 14, 2012

Dr. Paul Rowland
Executive Director
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability
    in Higher Education
1536 Wynkoop St., Suite 100
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Dr. Rowland:

    With a longstanding history of environmental leadership that extends over several decades, the University at Buffalo is committed to creating a better, more sustainable future for all of the communities we serve, locally as well as globally. This commitment informs every aspect of our mission as a public research university, from our innovative research to our curriculum and educational programs, our operations and built environment, and our engagement with our broader communities.

    As part of our ongoing commitment to building on these efforts, we were pleased to take part in the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)'s Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS) report, which has served as a valuable resource in helping us to gauge our current efforts and plan for continued improvements and future priorities. On behalf of the entire university community, I am pleased to endorse and submit UB's first STARS report.

    This report demonstrates that UB has earned a strong STARS Silver rating as of November 2012. While taking pride in the achievement this rating represents, it also serves to motivate and inspire our campus community as we continue to work toward fulfilling our commitment to become climate neutral by 2030.

    As the University at Buffalo advances our commitment to sustainability as a vital element of our campus culture, 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. STARS has been a valuable tool for assessing the current state of UB's sustainability and identifying our next steps and goals for the future as we continue to build even further on these strengths.

Sincerely,

Satish K. Tripathi
President