

March 12, 2015

The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS)
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
1536 Wynkoop Street, Suite 100
Denver, CO 80202

Dear STARS:

At Babson, we remain committed to social, environmental, economic responsibility and sustainability (SEERS). This commitment has been well shepherded by a sustainability leadership team that has continued to grow and evolve to best meet our sustainability challenges. The leadership team includes representatives from diverse segments of the Babson community to cover all areas of sustainability. The STARS scorecard continues to highlight our strengths as well as areas where we have much left to achieve in our efforts to become a leader in campus sustainability.

Since 2006 Babson has reduced its carbon footprint by 34% which puts us on track to reach our American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment goal of being carbon neutral by 2050. Our energy taskforce has been systematically implementing energy efficiency and conservation projects across campus, targeting lighting, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning opportunities. Campus-wide retrofits have replaced outdoor lighting and installed low-flow restroom fixtures. Controls and hardware have been updated or replaced in many buildings, providing significant energy savings.

In 2010 Babson began a partnership with GreenerU to provide management of the Sustainability Office. Through cross-departmental collaborations, a broad array of projects have been implemented on campus. All of our campus dining locations compost organic waste from food preparation, and recently installed waste stations collect trash, recycling, and compost in our campus center. Additionally, diversion initiatives have been launched for move-in and move-out, as well as for events throughout the year. E-waste collection stations have been placed across campus and our paper usage continues to decline every year.

Beyond operations and energy efficiency projects, Babson has continued to work with its community to infuse sustainability into its curriculum. Since our last STARS report, our first class of environmental sustainability concentration students has graduated, and the program continues to recruit more students. With the launch of our first campus-wide literacy survey, we look forward to measuring the outcomes of our learning goals for SEERS in our undergraduate program.

Finally, our Sustainability Office has been working hard to engage the campus community to create a culture of sustainable business leaders. The Sustainability Office has become a regular feature at Community Learning Day, sharing tools and ideas for sustainable living with staff. Through the Zero Waste Challenge hundreds of students, staff, and faculty experienced their personal waste first hand as they carried it with them during the week-long event. Our annual sustainability focused orientation event, From Day One Fest, has expanded and recently completed its fifth year.

I am pleased with the substantial progress of the Babson Community. I affirm the accuracy of our STARS reporting submission and invite you to revisit us in the future as this vital effort continues to expand and unfold.

All the best,

Kerry Healey

CenHeelen