



AUBURN UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 14, 2015

AASHE STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
2401 Walnut St., Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee:

Auburn University has recently completed our second comprehensive campus-wide sustainability performance assessment using the Sustainability Tracking Assessment & Rating System. This letter affirms that our self-assessment was conducted in a way that, to the best of our ability, accurately reflects the current state of Auburn's sustainability performance.

Once again, the process of gathering, organizing, and communicating this information has proved invaluable to us. It has highlighted what matters and enabled us to determine where we have progressed to date and where we have opportunities for tangible next steps.


Given the significant number of conversations and meetings with many different units required to complete our assessment, it is clear that there are large numbers of individuals and units on campus who recognize the importance of our sustainability initiatives and who are doing their part to help us achieve our goals.

Sustainability will continue to be an important institutional priority and it is gratifying to have our efforts to date recognized in a variety of ways. For example, this year Auburn was once again included in the Princeton Review's Guide to Green Colleges and again received Tree Campus USA designation. Auburn became the first college or university in Alabama to receive Bicycle Friendly University designation, and we were among the first cohort of colleges and universities to receive Green Ribbon University recognition from the U.S. Department of Education.

We all recognize that institutions of higher education have unique responsibilities and opportunities to innovate and model responsible behaviors, and that it is our collective mission to prepare students to make a meaningful difference in the world. Our sustainability initiatives enhance our abilities to do both, and STARS helps us evaluate the efficacy of these initiatives.

We value what AASHE has done in creating STARS, and we appreciate the opportunity to tell the story of our journey toward sustainability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Gogue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jay" being more prominent than the last name "Gogue".

Jay Gogue
President