



SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE
237 HIGH STREET, 4TH FLOOR
MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT 06459

December 15, 2015

To whom it may concern:

I, Jen Kleindienst, Sustainability Director at Wesleyan University, submit this letter in support of Eastern Connecticut State University's submission for an innovation point as part of their 2015 AASHE STARS report. In 2014, the Connecticut Alliance for Campus Sustainability was formed at the first sustainability-focused conference bringing together campuses from around the state of Connecticut. At this conference, Wesleyan presented *Developing a Sustainability Plan through Inclusive Campus Involvement*.

Since this point, the Alliance has grown to a network of sustainability professionals who host an annual conference in addition to a summer roundtable event that ties in with key issues in the state. In June 2015, Wesleyan hosted a roundtable event through the Alliance focused on solar power purchase agreements. The topic for this roundtable was based on interest from other institutions.

The capacity of the Alliance to bring a variety of private and public colleges and universities together with a shared mission of sustainability action on individual campuses is unique to the state. The Alliance also acts as a repository for information and event sharing. The Alliance was recognized by AASHE for its efforts for Campus Sustainability Week 2015, which saw participation from fourteen higher education institutions in Connecticut. The Alliance connects institutions to what is happening at the state level, sharing available incentives, job postings, and professional development opportunities. It is for these reasons that I believe Eastern is deserving of an innovation point for their role in forming and leading the Alliance.

If you would like more information about my involvement with the Connecticut Alliance for Campus Sustainability please feel free to contact me or visit the website at <http://www1.easternct.edu/sustainenergy/connecticut-alliance-for-campus-sustainability/>.

Sincerely,

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