



Hal Stern
Ted and Janice Smith Family Foundation Dean
and Professor of Statistics
Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences

6215 Bren Hall
University of California, Irvine
Irvine, CA 92697-3425

March 22, 2013

Re: UC IRVINE AASHE STARS 1.2 LETTER OF AFFIRMATION
INNOVATION 1 (2013): Greening Through IT

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to affirm that the research at the juncture of environmental sustainability and information technology, collectively called “Greening Through IT,” is important and innovative work. I am the Dean of the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences at the University of California, Irvine, the only independent computer science school in the UC system and one of the first in the United States. As Dean of such a school, I am exposed to a wide range of technological innovation. Based on my experience, I am pleased to attest to the innovative value of the work being done by the Social Code Group led by Professor Bill Tomlinson.

To provide a broader range of perspectives on this work, I would like to offer a few excerpts from letters that the Bren School obtained to support Professor Tomlinson’s recent case for promotion to full professor. These letters are from distinguished scholars from around the country and the world, and attest to the merit of these projects. They describe the work as “cutting edge,” “wholly original,” and “leading edge technology on a topic of critical interest to California.” One of these letter writers states that Professor Tomlinson “harnesses his outstanding scientific understanding with a broader, more socially conscious perspective of sustainability, which is unfortunately still too rare in computer science and informatics.” Taken together, these letters confirm the innovativeness of Professor Tomlinson’s projects.

To summarize, the work presented here for the “Coolest Schools” Innovation credit is at the forefront of its field, and is likely to lead to significant societal benefits in the area of environmental sustainability. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Hal S. Stern
Ted and Janice Smith Family Foundation Dean
and Professor of Statistics