

May 1, 2019

To the AASHE STARS Review Team:

This letter serves as my affirmation that the information in Champlain College's submission has been checked for accuracy. Our Director for Service & Sustainability Learning, Dr. Christina Erickson, was the lead researcher for this project and after collecting data from our various departments, had the information reviewed by the "Responsible Parties" indicated for each credit.

Sustainability has been a stated value of Champlain College since 2012, when we wrote our current strategic plan, "Champlain 2020," and was also a foundational aspect to our 2007 Master Plan. We are currently drafting our next strategic plan and are discussing how and where sustainability fits into our future vision.

This is Champlain College's second full submission to STARS, and I am pleased at the progress we have made in the past three years since our original submission in 2016. Examples of our recent efforts include:

Planning and Administration

- We founded our Center for Service & Sustainability in the fall of 2016. The Center's mission is "to connect the students of Champlain College with the broader community in beneficial ways that provide educational opportunities to reflect, to learn and to work toward a flourishing world for all." The Center serves as our academic service-learning office as well as our central hub for campus sustainability efforts.
- We created Champlain Engage: Champlain College's Civic Action Plan, written in response to Champlain being a signatory of the 30th Anniversary Campus Compact Action Statement, 2017.
- We joined the Burlington 2030 District, with the goal of reducing building energy consumption, water use, and transportation emissions 50% by 2030.
- I signed onto the Higher Education Carbon Pricing Endorsement Initiative, April 2018, a concluding service-learning project of ENP 300.
- Champlain served as co-host for the World Positive Education Accelerator (WPEA) held in June 2018, with over 800 people from over 30 countries to turn inspiration into action. Co-convened by the David L. Cooperrider Center for Appreciative Inquiry and the International Positive Education Network (IPEN), the WPEA brought together educators, students, parents, researchers, policy makers, business leaders, philanthropists, and foundations interested in accelerating education that imparts the tools and skills that enable wellbeing and human flourishing.



Engagement

- We hosted internationally renowned author and climate activist, Bill McKibben, on campus, October 2017.
- We hosted a satellite site for Student Sustainability Leadership Symposium, November 2017.

Operations

- We launched the region-wide GreenRide Bikeshare program, with Champlain as a key partner, April 2018.
- Perry Hall achieved the first non-residential BLUE certification, June 2018

Academics

- The first Service-Learning Faculty Award was presented to Duane Dunston, Assistant Professor, Cyber Security, May 2018.
- As of April 2019, nearly 30 courses have achieved Service-Learning Course Designation, and in the 2018-2019 academic year, over 580 students took a service-learning course.

We are proud of the work Champlain College has done to make our campus and community a more sustainable place, but know that this work is a continuous journey. The AASHE STARS program has allowed us to assess our efforts to date and will help guide our work of the future.

Thank you for your consideration of our submission.

Sincerely,



Donald J. Laackman
President

