

Mills College
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MILLS

June 20, 2016

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

Dear Members of the STARS Steering Committee:

Mills College is pleased to submit our third STARS report, documenting a number of major sustainability milestones reached this past year. The information contained in our submission is accurate and represents the efforts we have taken to create a “living laboratory” here on the Mills campus, in line with the Mills College Strategic Plan.

Mills achieved its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 15% by 2015, from 2008 levels. We are now developing our next reduction goal and Climate Action Plan as part of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, on the path to climate neutrality.

Mills has also demonstrated climate action leadership as the first college in a national program to deploy mobile solar generators on campuses in partnership with DC Solar Freedom. Many of these solar units are connected to services including electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, LED light towers, and personal device charging work stations. Additionally, these solar generators increase emergency preparedness at Mills by providing additional backup power.

The College has further strengthened its commitment to inclusion, social justice, and sustainability through the Kathleen Burke and Ralph Davis Fund for Urban Farm Leadership, which provided the necessary funding to establish a full-time Farm Manager position at Mills and begin implementing a 2.5 acre sustainable farm. This funding was followed shortly by a grant from the Heller Foundation. Together, these funding sources provide a solid foundation for the newly hired Farm Manager and collaborators to proceed with; the farm is already being integrated with course curriculum and community partners.

Mills College is proud to continue its membership in AASHE as part of the larger campus sustainability movement. The STARS report is one way we can monitor our progress, set goals for the future, and inspire others to push forward with us.

Sincerely,



Alecia A. DeCoudreaux
President, Mills College