

MILLS

February 5, 2013

STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
213 ½ North Limestone
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear Members of the STARS Steering Committee:

Mills College is delighted to submit its first STARS report. In my assessment the information contained in our submission is accurate and represents the efforts we have taken to include sustainable practices and attitudes into all aspects of living and learning on the Mills campus.

During my inaugural year I worked with our Sustainability Committee to create a pledge that describes the commitment that I and my administration have taken to support sustainable initiatives:

At Mills College, we strive to be a model of campus and community sustainability. We will lead by example to create experiences that will demonstrate our commitment. We will encourage our students, faculty and staff to integrate principles of sustainability into all aspects of College life – academic, administrative, social, and operational. In so doing, we link our core mission of educating thoughtful, creative leaders with our role as responsible stewards of the world in which we live.

We also included Principles of Sustainability in our master plan to provide policy leadership and promote social responsibility and stewardship of our built environment and natural resources. We have created community partnerships that encourage environmental inquiry and give us a platform to share our practices and knowledge with our surrounding community.

As we have embarked on new capital projects we have set high standards for energy efficiency, water conservation and wise use of resources. In doing so, we have created buildings that meet rigorous energy standards and provide an opportunity to use the building as a teaching tool.

Mills College is honored to be a member of AASHE and to be a part of a nation-wide effort to educate and inspire future leaders in sustainability. The STARS report is one

way we can monitor our progress and set goals for the future, a future that we hope is made more promising by our collective efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alecia A. DeCoudreaux". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and a prominent 'D'.

Alecia A. DeCoudreaux
President, Mills College