



Purchase College

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Office of the President

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September 17, 2019

Meghan Fay Zahniser
Executive Director
The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA. 19103

Dear Ms. Fay Zahniser,

On behalf of our college, I am pleased to submit the 2019 Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) report from Purchase College, State University of New York. This is the first year that Purchase College will be submitting a STARS report with a provisional rating.

Purchase has had a long history with sustainability, as an original signatory in the American College & University President's Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) in 2007 and hiring its first sustainability staff in 2008. Sustainability was integrated into our college's Strategic Plan as one of its four main directives to ensure fiscal, academic and environmental sustainability. The campus community embraces sustainability as one of its core values and we actively seek more opportunities to increase our efforts and initiatives. We consider this to be an integral part of our mission in creating graduates who are equipped with the skills to contribute to the global society. I am pleased to report that our Office of Sustainability has been working hard to engage and educate our community and identify ways to reduce the College's carbon footprint.

STARS is an opportunity to assess our current strengths and track our progress toward more sustainability curriculum, operations, research and engagement. Examining and benchmarking our practices through STARS is an important part of our commitment in enhancing sustainable and resilient practices across campus and acting as a model to our local community. This report will be further used to identify priority improvement areas and help to continue our work on campus.

As Interim President of Purchase College, I affirm that the information in this submission has been verified to the best of our institution's knowledge. Thank you for the opportunity to track institutional progress in a topic that affects us all. This is very important to Purchase College and the knowledge gained will greatly benefit our initiatives toward a sustainable future.

Sincerely,

Dennis Craig
Interim President