

WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

February 24, 2016

Association for the Advancement of
Sustainability in Higher Education
1536 Wynkoop Street, Suite 100
Denver, CO 80202

Subject: Letter of Affirmation – WPI STARS Innovation Credit

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter serves to demonstrate that the Student Sustainability Leaders' Roundtable at WPI meets the requirements of the Innovation Credit for the STARS Survey. As Director of Student Activities at WPI I am in a position to evaluate the significance of each aspect of our educational co-curricular program. This response is organized by the criteria for this credit.

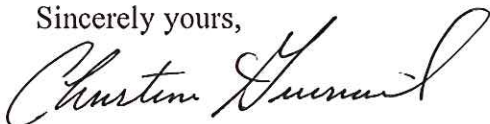
This innovation credit describes a new, extraordinary, unique, ground-breaking, or uncommon outcome, policies or practice. Student extra-curricular and co-curricular activities are an important part of a residential college education and WPI is fortunate to have several active student groups pursuing various aspects of sustainability. These groups include Engineers without Borders, the Global Humanitarian Alliance, Habitat for Humanity, Students for a Just and Stable Future, and the Green Team. The latter group is dedicated to making WPI's campus and operations more sustainable. All of these groups are doing excellent work, but there was little communication among them, and no opportunity to coordinate efforts or to gather their collective input regarding sustainability. The Office of Sustainability organized the Student Sustainability Leaders' Roundtable to address these issues with periodic dinner meetings. Although this concept is simple, it has had substantial payoffs in this, its first year of operation. Activities are being coordinated, good advice and help is being provided to the Office of Sustainability, and new friendships have been made.

The innovation credit is not already covered by an existing STARS credit. This program has never been included in any other STARS credit.

The innovative practice, program, or outcome has occurred within the past three years. The Student Sustainability Leaders' Roundtable is currently in its first year of operation.

The institution has not previously received a STARS innovation credit for this specific practice, policy, program, or outcome. This program has not been previously reported for an Innovation credit, or any other STARS credit.

Sincerely yours,



Christine Girouard
Director of Student Activities

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