



May 1, 2020

Subject Letter of Affirmation: WPI STARS Innovation Credit

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter serves to demonstrate that the Center for Global Public Safety Stakeholders' Forum at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) meets the requirements of the Innovation Credit for the STARS Survey. As Co-Directors of WPI's Center for Global Public Safety, we are in a position to evaluate the significance of each aspect of our education co-curriculum program. This response is organized by the criteria for this credit.

This innovation credit describes a new, extraordinary, unique, groundbreaking, or uncommon outcome, policy or practice. The Center for Global Public Safety Stakeholders' Forum is an inter-disciplinary research and innovation initiative that brings together industry leaders, governmental authorities and universities from around the world to lead an integrated effort to improve global public safety. With the global challenges we are facing, academic, regulatory and industry partnerships are needed to develop solutions to local/global problems while advancing essential technology for the development of smart and safe communities worldwide. The Industry Forum serves to focus and facilitate the Center's efforts on solving local and global problems that deliver impact in six main areas: Fire, Emergency Response, Water Security, Food Safety, Smart Transportation, and Energy Innovations.

The first Annual Industry Stakeholders' Forum, held in 2018, provided a foundation to understand industry needs in all six of these areas. Subsequent forums will continue to develop the research connections in the six areas, with a more focused themes in specific areas. For example, the second Forum was held in March 2019 with a theme of Energy Initiatives and their Impact on Public Safety. The third forum addressing water was planned for March 2002 but will be rescheduled due to the COVID19 situation.

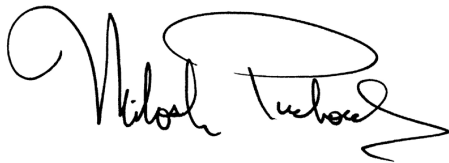
Driven by a vision to develop global solutions implemented on a local level to challenges in these areas, the Forum's activities engage people in partnerships that use world-class research and innovation to solve real world problems. WPI collaborates with industry, government, and academic partners to solve demand-driven problems that make the world a safer place.

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

The innovation practice, program, or outcome has occurred within the past three years. This program is currently in its second year.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Milosh Puchovsky". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long tail at the end.

Milosh Puchovsky, PE
Co-Director, Center for Global Public Safety
Professor of Practice and Associate Department Head
Fire Protection Engineering

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jianyu Liang". The signature is cursive and elegant, with a large loop at the beginning and a long tail at the end.

Jianyu Liang, Ph.D.
Co-Director, Center for Global Public Safety
Professor, Mechanical Engineering