

October 1, 2012

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

Re: Durham College STARS Report Submission

To the representatives of AASHE:

At Durham College, sustainability guides our decisions and practices in fostering the continued success and well-being of our students, people, business, and community, both locally and globally. We believe in a shared responsibility for social, environmental and economic stewardship, ensuring ours and future generations live well.

Durham College is implementing new measures that will make us better environmental stewards and champions in the years ahead. As part of our commitment to sustainable practices, the college has created the Durham College Sustainability Committee. Its mandate is to promote awareness, understanding and the practice of environmental, social and economic sustainability with all Durham College stakeholders, as well as to enhance:

- Campus operations;
- Planning;
- Administration;
- Curriculum;
- Research;
- Innovation; and
- Stakeholder engagement.

With support from the college governors, leadership team, faculty, staff, and students, we have been able to complete this report and demonstrate our sustainable initiatives. Given our long-standing tradition of continuously working with community and business partners to improve our curriculum and services, sustainability is a natural extension of that journey.

On behalf of Durham College, I am pleased to authorize our first submission to the ASSHE Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System. This report not only engaged staff but has started a sustainable movement with our students. Gathering this invaluable data will enable us to track our future sustainable initiatives by allowing meaningful comparisons with baseline data.

The STARS data has allowed us to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of our campus sustainability practices, from our dining services, to academia, housekeeping, grounds, sustainable co-ordination and public engagement. Our STARS report will have positive and profound effects on our campus by helping improve our greenhouse gas emissions, green procurement policies and continuing to motivate faculty, staff and students on our sustainable journey.

Sincerely,



Don Lovisa  
President  
Durham College