

February 28, 2014

To Whom It May Concern

University of San Diego Innovation Credit Endorsement

I am delighted to offer my endorsement of the innovation projects submitted by the University of San Diego (USD) and confirm that they meet the criteria for STARS Innovation Credits.

As the USD Director of Sustainability, I have overseen campus sustainability efforts since 2009, I am well versed in the sustainability challenges faced by our campus and the wider community. I am well informed in the projects that USD is claiming innovation credits for.

With this background I am happy to attest that the following projects are innovative initiatives to advance sustainability:

1. USD Electronic Waste Collection Center
2. San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative
3. Climate Education Partners: San Diego Region
4. Ashoka Designated Changemaker HUB

These initiatives are innovative due to their uniqueness within the San Diego Area and due to their reach well beyond the bounds of our campus, engaging the entire community of San Diego area to advance sustainability. As an institution of higher education and driver of innovation, we believe we have a responsibility to advocate for regional issues and be a supporter of our local community.

The E-waste collection center is open to the entire community of San Diego, America's eighth largest city, for the proper disposal of electronic waste. The Climate Collaborative based at USD is a regional forum for public agencies to share expertise and leverage resources to facilitate climate action planning. The Climate Education Partners is part of a National Science Foundation grant to develop a climate change education plan for the San Diego region. The Changemaker Hub is a campus wide organization and a space set up to promote entrepreneurship, collaboration, and innovation for positive social change. Collectively, USD's innovation initiatives pull regional resources to positively impact the region as a whole.

If you have further questions regarding these projects, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Michael Catanzaro

Director of Sustainability
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