



November 10, 2022

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education  
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I am presenting Bucknell University's STARS report. This report reflects the University's diligent work and sincere dedication towards the implementation of sustainable change on our campus.

Bucknell educates students for a lifetime of critical thinking and strong leadership characterized by continued intellectual exploration, creativity and imagination. As a role model for our students, the University is evolving. Given the current state of the environment, Bucknell is exploring new ways to reduce our impact, implement creative new processes, and imagine a near future of carbon neutrality. In addition to implementing physical changes to our University infrastructure, we are making a concerted effort to educate our students about the importance of sustainability.

In our 2019 submission, we reported the establishment of the Bucknell Farm and the creation of the Office of Campus Sustainability (OCS). Since then, we have leveraged on these two accomplishments to enhance biodiversity/natural habitat, energy efficiency/carbon neutrality and waste minimization objectives in our Strategic Plan. With the OCS, we have completed a 10-year Sustainability Plan that was developed while simultaneously implementing key activities under the President's Sustainability Council (PSC) Working Groups.

We have deployed a 1.7MW DC solar farm on campus which will also serve as a living learning laboratory for biodiversity/natural habitat research. On waste minimization, we installed a biodigester that diverts food waste from the landfill. As reported by Second Nature, we have reduced our carbon footprint by nearly 30% from the 2008 baseline. These are examples of many campus sustainability activities and engagements covered in Sustainability @ Bucknell reports every semester since the Fall of 2019.

This third submission demonstrates Bucknell's progress in advancing sustainability in higher education despite the challenges we faced during the Covid-19 pandemic. I sincerely thank the students, faculty and staff that were so involved in collecting and analyzing the data for this report, without which this submission would not have been possible. In each coming year we will enhance our reporting practices and build upon the initiatives already in place. This will not only increase our scoring on the STARS report, but will also reduce our overall impact and move us closer to our committed goal of carbon neutrality. We are committed to improving our efforts in sustainability and will view this year's submission as a baseline from which we can only exceed.

Sincerely,

John C. Bravman  
President