

12345 College Blvd. • Overland Park, KS • 66210-1299

July 26, 2017

To whom it may concern:

I affirm the contents of Johnson County Community College's (JCCC) STARS Report are accurate to the best of my knowledge.

JCCC's STARS Report demonstrates our commitment to integrating sustainability throughout our planning and administrative processes, campus operations, and academics. The report shows clear institutional progress since 2014 and offers useful indications for further improvement.

Since our 2014 review, JCCC's work in Academics and Engagement have enhanced our curricular and cocurricular offerings and enriched our campus community. In the 2017 review, we also responded to the criteria for research, a first for the institution. Advances in waste diversion and energy efficiency lessen negative effects on the environment, while changes in the way we purchase materials for our campus have shifted conversations toward more thoughtful and considered policies and procedures.

The Center for Sustainability's Executive Director, Dr. Jay Antle, leads a team of four employees and five student interns in their work serving JCCC's many sustainability efforts. Student voices are invaluable to the work we do as well, as our Student Sustainability Committee (SSC) allocates financial support to projects and programs of their choosing from the Sustainability Initiatives Fund. Our student-initiated \$1 per credit hour fee ensures we serve students' interests in our sustainability efforts. The SSC makes many of JCCC's sustainability projects possible, including cultural events related to sustainability, rewarding faculty for integrating sustainability into their classes, multiple energy efficiency investments, and unique student leadership programs.

Our STARS report illustrates the considerable advances JCCC has made in the past triennium. As we look forward to the Center for Sustainability's tenth anniversary, our STARS evaluation offers many paths for continuous improvement, and useful tools as we ensure student and organizational preparation for a rapidly changing world.

Sincerely,

Joe Sopcich President

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