

**Duke University**  
Durham  
North Carolina 27708-0001

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
BOX 90001

TELEPHONE (919) 684-2424  
FACSIMILE (919) 684-3050

October 17, 2013

Dear STARS Steering Committee,

I am pleased to affirm that Duke University's submission for the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) is an accurate representation of our campus sustainability initiatives. We are proud to recertify our sustainability efforts within this self-assessment model to help institutions across the country measure their sustainability efforts and track progress.

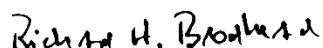
Duke's commitment to sustainability is part of the fabric and institutional culture of our campus. We believe in an ethos of "knowledge in service to society" and equipping our graduates to address real-world challenges. Preparing the minds of tomorrow's leaders to understand and tackle complex issues such as climate change, energy security, and limited natural resources is part of the institutional mission of this university.

Since our inaugural STARS Gold rating in 2011, the university has made great strides in our campus sustainability efforts. We have eliminated coal from the campus steam plants and achieved a 28% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions since our 2007 baseline; we are developing new courses to educate and engage our students on sustainability topics; over 50 offices (1,100+ staff) have achieved green office certification; 29% of the campus buildings are LEED certified; and we have maintained a 30% reduction in potable water over the past seven years despite adding over 1M GSF of new buildings.

Duke's participation in STARS has allowed us to better measure our progress to date and publicize our efforts. While no assessment tool is perfect, we recognize the benefits of this rating system include an open development process with input from many different institutions of higher education, a fully transparent methodology, and a comprehensive approach to sustainability. We look forward to the upcoming changes in STARS 2.0 as well.

In 2005, Duke adopted an Environmental Policy that states... *"Duke University seeks to attain and maintain a place of leadership in all that we do. This includes leadership in environmental stewardship and sustainability on our campus, in our medical institutions, and in the larger community of which we are a part. We will bring vision, intellect, and high ethical standards to our pursuit of environmental leadership in research and teaching, institutional operations, and our relationship with the community."* Our participation in STARS has helped assess these aspirations, share our best practices with peer institutions, and serve to further demonstrate Duke's commitment to addressing the challenges of the future.

Sincerely,



Richard H. Brodhead