



229 High Street
Middletown, Connecticut 06459-0290
P: 860 685 3500 F: 860 685 3501
mroth@wesleyan.edu

Michael S. Roth
President

March 27, 2023

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

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee,

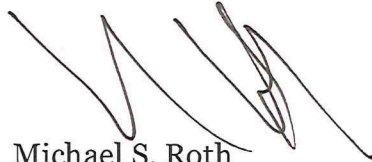
Recognizing the importance of sustainability and commitments we set forth in the Climate Leadership Carbon Commitment and wanting to continue assessing our true sustainability impact, Wesleyan joined AASHE's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) Program in 2013 and has just completed its fourth STARS submission.

Since 2008, our carbon emissions have dropped nearly 40 percent through our individual and collective conservation actions and Facilities' work reducing building energy consumption and converting our campus heating system from steam to hot water. Our efforts, large and small, stretch beyond our carbon footprint and include continuing integration of sustainability and environmental justice in courses, a commitment to LEED Gold minimum construction and renovation, and installation of nearly 1 MW of solar PV arrays. Students have led many campaigns and projects, including launching a free thrift store, creating a guide to engage the Wesleyan and Middletown communities in local government, and leading an environmental justice speaker and workshop series. Wesleyan's Sustainability Office furthers these efforts and facilitates connections between students, faculty, and staff.

Through this STARS evaluation, we have been able to monitor our progress toward sustainability more effectively and chart our next steps. Many of the recommendations garnered from our last STARS submission informed our Sustainability Strategic Plan, which was released in Spring 2022. This plan sets bold objectives in the areas of carbon, curriculum, and community, committing us to carbon neutrality by 2035, equipping students with education and skills to become environmental and social leaders, and "walking the walk" through University practices as well as the individual and collective actions of students, faculty, and staff as they interact on campus and in the Middletown community.

I have reviewed our STARS submission, led by Sustainability Director Jennifer Kleindienst, and verify that the report accurately reflects Wesleyan's efforts to create a sustainable campus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Roth', written over a thin horizontal line.

Michael S. Roth

MSR/dmb