



April 21, 2017

STARS Steering Committee  
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education  
2401 Walnut St. Suite 102  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Members of the STARS Steering Committee:

On behalf of Santa Clara University, I present our third submission to AASHE's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, & Rating System (STARS). I affirm the data is accurate, current, and representative of our campus-wide sustainability efforts.

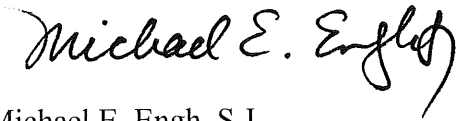
Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, Santa Clara University blends high-tech innovation with a social consciousness grounded in the Jesuit educational tradition. We are committed to leaving the world a better place. We pursue new technology, encourage creativity, engage with our communities, and share an entrepreneurial mindset. Our goal is to help shape the next generation of leaders and global thinkers. Our Vision states Santa Clara University will educate citizens and leaders of competence, conscience, and compassion and cultivate knowledge and faith to build a more humane, just, and sustainable world.

I am proud to say SCU has improved our STARS score each time we have participated: from the STARS pilot in 2009, earning our Silver rating in 2011, and our first Gold rating in 2014. I am very proud of this year's STARS submission. Here are a few highlights:

- Almost 25% of our courses include an element of sustainability, and 93% of academic departments offer at least one sustainability course. This is the result of the efforts of many faculty who dedicate their time to examining our pedagogy and transforming our curriculum to provide opportunities for our students to engage in sustainability exploration, regardless of their academic discipline.
- SCU's relentless support of new technologies to reduce our carbon footprint, decrease driving and improve student experience will hopefully soon be available to campuses nationwide through our innovative electric autonomous vehicle partnership.
- Our Sustainability Liaison Network engages over 100 students, faculty, and staff who serve as peer leaders to develop a culture of sustainability in their departments, student housing on- and off-campus, and student organizations. The Liaison network broadens the reach of our Center for Sustainability by empowering Liaisons to take ownership of campus sustainability efforts and innovate to develop a more sustainable SCU.

Our participation in STARS and the great progress we have made since the 2009 pilot are indicative of our foundational commitment to sustainability. I thank AASHE and its leadership in mobilizing sustainability efforts on campuses across the country. It is an honor to participate in STARS and advance the important work of building a more sustainable world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael E. Engh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "M" and a stylized "E".

Michael E. Engh, S.J.  
President

cc: Lindsey Kalkbrenner, Director, Center for Sustainability