

December 13, 2019

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Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
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Dear STARS Steering Committee,

I am pleased to submit this letter affirming the accuracy of information provided in our third STARS report. The data collection process was a valuable exercise, serving as an assessment tool and reaffirming our commitment to sustainability. In the three years since our last STARS submission, we have continued to grow our focus on sustainability.

In December 2017, the Sustainability Office was able to hire a second full-time sustainability professional, expanding the capacity of that office and allowing our sustainability director to transition programming and outreach activities to our new sustainability program coordinator. With this shift, our sustainability director has been able to focus on more strategic priorities, including the formation of campus Sustainability Working Groups, which include work in the areas of energy, food, air & climate, and transportation. These working groups include participation from students, faculty, staff, and community members.

Additionally, the Sustainability Office team has been engaging campus stakeholders to understand the holistic nature of sustainability, focusing educational efforts on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the resources within Project Drawdown. Initiated in mid-2017, our Saluki Green Action Team outreach program currently has over 2000 members. On the academic side, we have been going through a reorganization which has resulted in a new School of Earth Systems and Sustainability.

Our Green Fund grant program, which is overseen by the campus's Sustainability Council, is still actively empowering campus stakeholders to propose projects to support a more sustainable SIU. This year, the Council opened a pre-screening period, which they believe will support even stronger and more collaborative proposals. The Council has awarded over \$2.2 million toward campus sustainability projects, programming, and research, since the fee was instituted in 2009.

With the completion of our third STARS submission, we hope to further identify areas for improvement. I look forward to seeing what other initiatives our campus will implement.

Sincerely,



John M. Dunn
Interim Chancellor

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