DENISON

September 13, 2022

Ms. Meghan Fay Zahniser, Executive Director AASHE

Dear Ms. Zahniser,

As definitions of sustainability evolve, Denison University's response to the global issue of climate change is expanding. For example, in addition to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030, we are committed to achieving carbon net zero emissions by 2045 and to supporting sustainable development initiatives both on campus and in our central Ohio community. Further, we are focusing on enlarging our sustainability-focused academic offerings and career support, expanding equitable and inclusive economic opportunities, as well as building our capacity to be resilient and adaptable in the face of ongoing change.

Operationally, we are strengthening our commitment to clean energy, and partnering with Ever Green energy consultants to obtain optimal energy usage and engage in the most effective overall operating practices. These include increasing the number of solar energy panels on campus and replacing our heating plant with a new system which provides significant increases in efficiencies.

You will note we have created a new major and minor in Environmental Science and considerably increased the number of courses with a sustainability focus. Many Denison students are committed to sustainability-oriented careers, and we are supporting internships, community partnerships, and connections that will enable them to engage in the work they are passionate about.

And although the STARS report doesn't require this information, I find satisfaction in sharing with you Denison's commitment to equity and inclusion means we are one of the few colleges in the nation that provides 100% of demonstrated financial need for our students. In addition, Denison is undergoing a comprehensive review to ensure our benefits and compensation are competitive, equitable, and support the needs of our faculty and staff.

Denison is pleased to submit our fourth STARS report, representing progress towards sustainability over more than a dozen years of our partnership with AASHE. I am grateful for the resources, support, and community AASHE provides as we further integrate sustainable goals and focus throughout our campus and into the wider community.

Sincerely,

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Adam Weinberg President Denison University