



May 11, 2017

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

Dear Members of the STARS Steering Committee:

On behalf of the University of Miami, I am pleased to endorse the report submitted to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking Assessment Rating System (STARS). Our report reflects the progress and accomplishments of faculty, staff, and students to advance sustainability at our University and in the Miami-Dade County area.

The University of Miami is committed to developing and implementing educational, facility, and community outreach programs that are aimed at reducing our environmental impacts as well as fulfilling our commitment under the 2nd Nature - American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment. The STARS program provides a way for us to track the progress of our initiatives. All of our programs and initiatives have a strong educational component that focuses on developing a pledge to sustainability across our campuses and surrounding communities. UM's Office of Sustainability is charged with monitoring initiatives, delivering education programs, and implementing new projects in conjunction with our stakeholders.

One of the University's most significant achievements in recent years was the opening of the first LEED Platinum 3 floor building in higher education institutions in the region. With a 70 KW solar system, electro-chromatic windows, and a rainwater harvesting system that connects to the toilets flushing system, the new Frost School of Music Studio is regarded as a benchmark building.

We are proud to participate in the AASHE STARS program and look forward to our continued involvement. Thank you for your important work to encourage behaviors that will sustain and improve our environment.

Julio Frenk