

FRANKLIN COLLEGE SWITZERLAND

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5 August 2013

Wendy Scott, Executive Director
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
1536 Wynkoop St., Suite 100
Denver CO 80202
USA

Dear Ms. Scott:

It is my pleasure to confirm the accuracy of the data in Franklin College Switzerland's STARS report. As you know, Franklin is one of the schools in the International Pilot Program and we hope that our participation and data will allow AASHE to develop STARS more fully for non-American institutions. Franklin is a unique institution, bearing accreditation both in the US through Middle States and in Switzerland through OAQ. As such, we are likely best characterized as a hybrid between a North American and a European/Swiss institution. We are a small school with approximately 400 FTE's but with a rich diversity of students, staff, and faculty from over 70 nations.

Franklin has been actively pursuing sustainability initiatives since its initial internal sustainability assessment in 2008-9. This report reflects the work of our Center for Sustainability Initiatives, currently co-directed by Professors Brack Hale and Alison Vogelaar, the 2012 Environmental Studies Capstone course, and Franklin Lifelong Learning Scholars, Anna Hixson and Sean McErlane.

This experience has been very fruitful for Franklin. On the one hand, it has helped confirm some of our feelings about our successes, in particular the strength of our curricular initiatives. It has also helped us identify both areas where we can improve in our operations as well as initiatives that we had not considered before. Finally, it allowed us to appreciate the Swiss context in which we live and work. For example, we are able to take advantage of a low-carbon energy system and a high quality, local food system.

We at Franklin hope that this snapshot of our efforts will serve as a baseline for us in the future as we strive to improve our sustainability impacts as well as educate our students, our local communities, and ourselves about how to be as sustainable as possible in our home societies and environment, as well as across the globe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'P. Gregory Warden'.

P. Gregory Warden
President