



February 14, 2020

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

Dear Ms. Fay Zahniser,

On behalf of the College of Charleston and its Center for Sustainable Development, we are enthused and humbled to submit our first STARS report for your review and consideration.

In 2011, the College organized a hub for the teaching, research and practical application of sustainability. Five years later, the institution declared sustainability literacy its primary goal for reaccreditation through 2022. Developing empowered citizens who can think critically and innovate to solve challenges is central to the College's mission and strategic vision.

No entity embodies this campus-wide commitment to sustainability more than the Center for Sustainable Development. Under the guidance of Dr. Brian Fisher, the Center's team of changemakers is regarded as influential and collaborative. In this report, you'll find accurate and detailed examples of their recent success, including:

- A mentorship program that emphasizes student projects and a sustainability culture
- A significant investment in sustainability curriculum and holistic integrated learning
- Thought leadership and operational support to advance climate and zero waste goals

You will also find areas where we intend to improve and evolve. Our university belongs to a historic coastal community – one that is observing the social, economic and environmental impacts of climate change in real time. As educators, we vow to ready the next generation of leaders to shape a more resilient and equitable future within the four walls of our campus and beyond them.

The College aims to be a leader in the Southeast on sustainability education and application, and we will strive to meet the strong standards set by your organization and our peers in higher education. We appreciate your support and guidance.

Ever forward,

Frances C. Welch  
Interim Provost and Executive Vice President  
Division of Academic Affairs

P. Brian Fisher, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Center for Sustainable Development