

July 14, 2014

Stephanie A. Herrera, Executive Director Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education 1536 Wynkoop St., Suite 100 Denver, CO 80202

Dear Ms. Herrera:

On behalf of Concordia College, I am pleased to submit the Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) report. I affirm that it is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

The completion of this report marks a milestone in our journey to infuse sustainability principles into everything that we do. Only a few years ago, a newly-appointed President's Sustainability Council worked with multiple campus constituencies to develop a guiding document, "Concordia College's Vision for Sustainability." Since then, we as an institution have made exciting progress in improving our capacity to educate for sustainability and in reducing the ecological footprint of campus operations. The development of an Eco-Reps program, the creation of an EcoHouse, and the installation of metering in all residence halls has opened up valuable opportunities for student learning. A planned expansion of the campus organic garden and a new multi-year sustainability-themed faculty development program will further enhance our ability to prepare students to take on the challenges of the world. The opening of our first LEED-certified building set a new standard for the campus, while we have continued to take steps to increase the efficiency of our energy use. The college is now in the final stages of approving a comprehensive Sustainability Action Plan that will provide a roadmap for our efforts in the coming years.

Sustainability at Concordia College arises from our commitment as a liberal arts college to cultivating engaged democratic citizens and from our devotion as a Lutheran college to the active care and renewal of the world. Concordia has long been keenly aware of its heritage in the Red River Valley and of the ways in which stewardship of place defines us. We have been equally aware as a college dedicated to global education that all we do affects our neighbors, close by and far away. And so our dedication to sustainability, and to the common good that AASHE promotes, wells up from who we are. We are grateful for your work, and we are glad to be part of it.

Sincerely.

William J. Craf President