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Meghan Fay Zahniser
Executive Director
The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Meghan,

It is my great pleasure to present University of Idaho's second submission to AASHE's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System™ (STARS®) which is a transparent, self-reporting framework for universities to measure their sustainability performance. I am proud to report that the University of Idaho has been working diligently to improve our current Silver rating.

This submission reflects the strategic efforts of multiple stakeholders across our campus—from Facilities to Human Resources, the Office of Research, Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation, and many other individuals and offices. The effort has been facilitated by our Sustainability Center and it supports the mission of this office to engage stakeholders across campus in assuming leadership for sustainability. In addition, data gathered in STARS will be resubmitted to the Princeton Review, which will help us to better determine how we are doing with sustainability and pinpoint areas where we can improve.

As a signatory of two climate agreements, the Talloires Declaration (2005), and the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (2007), the University of Idaho is committed to incorporating sustainability and environmental literacy in teaching, research, operations, and outreach. Comprehensive plans in pursuit of climate neutrality, the Climate Action Plan (2010), and four iterations of the Greenhouse Gas Inventory (2008, 2011, 2019, 2020) set institutional goals and measure progress. In addition, a wide array of sustainable practices are currently in place, with ongoing efforts to expand and improve.

We continue to pursue new opportunities to advance the goal of carbon neutrality. In 2020, U of I completed the installation of our first rooftop photovoltaic array on the Institutional Research and Innovation Center (IRIC). The solar array boasts 368 panels purchased by 120 donors, including the Associated Students University of Idaho (ASUI) and the Office of the President. Currently, we are in the process of adding three electricity producing steam turbines at the U of I District Energy Plant that will have the capacity to offset the facility's electrical demand, making the plant carbon negative.

Our commitment to green infrastructure led to the completion of our historic mass-timber athletic facility, the ICCU Arena. Using wood sourced from our school forests and surrounding public and

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private lands in Idaho, we showcased the potential of timber as a modern, renewable building material. This accomplishment joins our two LEED gold certified buildings in our pursuit of a more efficient and sustainable campus.

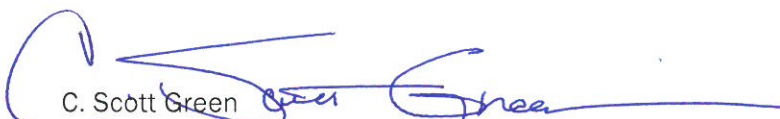
Due to our efforts, U of I ranked fifth for energy reductions and clean renewable energy sources out of 356 institutions, according to AASHE. Additionally, greenhouse gas emissions are down 30% since the 2005 baseline due to university energy efficiency measures and the greening of our utility provider's fuel mix. U of I also received a green rating of 96 out of 99 points for leadership in sustainability, publishing a Greenhouse Gas Inventory, providing alternative transportation options and for offering employees a condensed work week option from the Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges.

In 2021, a milestone for our university's commitment to sustainability was started in the form of the Presidential Sustainability Working Group. Staff, faculty, students, and outside partners are assembling to address improving sustainability in academics, operations, and the student experience. This working group aims to identify the early opportunities to highlight existing degrees and research focused on sustainability, as well as include recommendations for future focus areas in sustainability.

The University of Idaho is the state's land-grant research university and flagship public institution. Our mission is to shape the future through innovative thinking, community engagement and transformative education. From this distinctive origin and identity, we will enhance the scientific, economic, social, legal, and cultural assets of our state and develop solutions for complex problems facing our society. Environmental degradation of our planet affects us all. For that reason, we are committed to addressing this challenge through the implementation of sustainable environmental, social, and economic practices into the foundation of the work we do. We will continue to deliver focused excellence in teaching, research, outreach, and engagement in a collaborative environment at our residential main campus in Moscow, regional centers, extension offices, and research facilities across Idaho with consideration and care for our impact on the environment and promotion of its longevity. Consistent with the land-grant ideal, we will ensure that our outreach activities serve the state and strengthen our teaching, scholarly, and creative capacities statewide. Our educational offerings will transform the lives of our students through engaged learning and self-reflection. Our teaching and learning will include undergraduate, graduate, professional and continuing education offered through face-to-face instruction, technology-enabled delivery, and hands-on experience. Our educational programs strive for excellence and will be enriched by the knowledge, collaboration, diversity, and creativity of our faculty, students, and staff.

This affirmation of the accuracy of our submission is supported by the verification efforts of our university's leadership. Years of ongoing data collection and review have brought us to our current Silver rating, and the continued work of our dedicated staff, faculty and students will continue to help us elevate sustainability at the University of Idaho.

Sincerely,



C. Scott Green
President