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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 Ms. Fay Zahniser,

It is my great pleasure to present University of Idaho's first 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 earned a provisional 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 too many individuals and offices in between to list. The effort has been facilitated by our Sustainability Center and it reflects the mission of this office to support stakeholders across campus in assuming leadership for sustainability. In addition, data gathered in STARS will be submitted to the Princeton Review and the Sierra Club Survey, all of 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 two iterations of the Greenhouse Gas Inventory (2008, 2011) 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. In the data-gathering phase of STARS, Campus Sustainability Survey respondents shared beliefs, attitudes and norms on a wide variety of issue areas including climate change. For example, 93% of respondents believe climate change is happening, and 73% of student respondents support a student fee increase of \$5 or less to help fund campus solar arrays (or other energy conservation infrastructure). These efforts support the university's goal to be climate neutral by 2030, as outlined in the University of Idaho Climate Action Plan.

Our Mission: The University of Idaho will shape the future through innovative thinking, community engagement and transformative education. The University of Idaho is the state's land-grant research university. 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. 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. 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 will 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 this provisional Silver rating. This will be the springboard from, which we launch a new vision for campus sustainability, which takes us into the future.

Sincerely,



Chuck Staben  
President