

## **Kevin G. Clark**Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

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Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) 1536 Wynkoop Street, Suite 100 Denver, CO 80202

Re: Temple University STARS 2.0 Submission

To whom it may concern:

Temple University is pleased to submit its first Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) report. The report, completed by Temple's Office of Sustainability, was a university-wide collaborative effort and has been verified for accuracy.

In 2008, Temple University affirmed its commitment to sustainability by signing the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC). In 2010, Temple developed its Climate Action Plan outlining goals for achieving carbon neutrality over time, which included:

- 1. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 30% in 2030;
- 2. Integrating sustainability into the curriculum;
- 3. Expanding research and community outreach in climate change.

Since signing the ACUPCC, Temple has made significant progress on its sustainability goals. Some recent highlights include the following:

- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 13% since 2006;
- Named as one of the Princeton Review's 353 most environmentally responsible colleges in 2015;
- LEED certification of two campus buildings since 2014;
- Designation as a Bicycle Friendly University by the League of American Bicyclists in 2014;
- Launching of the innovative bike surplus program which repairs and sells abandoned and unclaimed bicycles to university students at a low cost;
- Implementation of composting programs in select dining halls;
- Opening of the Rad Dish Café, a student-governed and sustainable food café dedicated to selling exclusively local, organic, ethical food to the Temple community;

Offering student opportunities in sustainability education and research through the
following programs: Certificate in Sustainability; Sustainability Living and Learning
Community; Creative Arts, Research and Scholarship; Graduate Research Award
Sustainability Program; and, Paley's Library Prize for Undergraduate Research on
Sustainability.

We look forward to receiving the STARS Bronze designation. STARS reporting has provided a framework to help identify opportunities to further sustainability efforts throughout the university.

Sincerely,

Kevin Clark

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer