

Office of the President

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TO: STARS Steering Committee
FROM: President Jonathan Lash
ABOUT: Hampshire College STARS Submission
DATE: March 30, 2018

Dear STARS Steering Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit to STARS on behalf of Hampshire College. With this letter I confirm that our submission accurately reflects the data and programs of our community.

Why is it a priority for Hampshire College to apply for STARS recognition? Because we're a rigorous educational institution with a mandate to be an agent of change for the good, a laboratory for experimenting with ways that a private liberal arts college can be a more effective intellectual and moral force in the world.

Environmentalism and environmental justice are two great, moral issues of our time. When we do our part to make progress by improving on-campus sustainability practices, as we do, we're not doing enough. When we educate new generations of young people in the complexities of the problems, and watch in awe as they create new knowledge and ways forward (as we do), we're still not doing enough. But when we also share what we learn, and partner with organizations whose goals are similar to ours, we bring visibility and innovation to scale. That's when we feel we're having real impact.

STARS validates and amplifies our sustainability efforts.

Hosting senior GE executives for a site visit — the world's largest corporation accepting an invitation from one of the country's smaller colleges because our Living Building can influence development of their world headquarters — *validates and amplifies our sustainability efforts.*

Inspiring Oscar-nominee Mark Ruffalo to Tweet to his millions of followers an item about Hampshire going 100% solar *validates and amplifies our sustainability efforts.*

Speaking for all my Hampshire colleagues who strive to do well by doing good — students, faculty, staff, alums, and funders — STARS recognition is ultimately about advocacy and leverage. "If a little school in snow country can do this," we want to tell the world, "You can, too."

We hope you'll find meaningful accomplishment in our STARS submission. If you do, we plan to use our ranking to attract new undergraduates who have a passion for bringing change, to inspire our community of learners to even greater achievements, and to lead even more visibly by example.

With appreciation,



Jonathan Lash
President
Hampshire College