

Dear STARS Steering Committee,

On behalf of Radford University, I am pleased to support our university's first Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS) submission. Radford University's Sustainability Manager led the process and collaborated with the Sustainability Steering Committee and many additional campus partners to collect the information included herein. This represents the most comprehensive and thorough sustainability assessment that Radford University has ever completed. It required dozens of partners to collect and process data and provided multiple opportunities to review for accuracy.

Since making our sustainability commitment in 2009, Radford University has undergone significant physical growth, both in square footage of building space and in the types of experiences our new and renovated facilities can provide to our students. Over the last ten years, the University has added over 480,000 square feet of new building space and completed major renovations of nearly 414,000 square feet of building space. This includes 11 LEED Certified buildings (10 Gold, 1 Silver), over 40,000 square feet of lab space, and a new Student Recreation & Wellness Center. This demonstrates the University's commitment to pursuing sustainable growth.

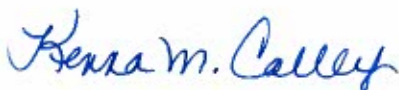
Student opportunities for learning about and engaging with sustainability are widespread. During the 2017 – 2018 academic year, 86% of academic departments featured sustainability focused or sustainability related course offerings and in May 2019, we will host our bi-annual "Sustainability Across Curriculum" workshop to support faculty in integrating sustainability into curriculum. Additionally, students have many opportunities to learn, develop professional skills, and make a difference as Sustainability Leadership Team interns, Sustainability Office employees, in the sustainability Living, Learning Community, and in residence hall sustainability competitions. Last year, student groups launched a Food Recovery Network chapter and the Bags to Benches program on campus and this year are working to develop a green office certification program.

Some highlights of this STARS submission include:

- 68% of research producing departments are engaged in sustainability scholarship
- 22% of faculty researchers are engaged in sustainability-related scholarship
- 91% of qualifying building space that is new or undergone major renovation is LEED certified
- 99% of new purchased computers, tablets, laptops, and monitors are EPEAT Gold rated
- 87% of students commute to class using a sustainable method of transportation

The STARS reporting framework aligns with the goals of our Climate Action Plan and provides a tool for measuring and validating our sustainability efforts. Using this new baseline, we can update our plan, establish new, measurable goals, and keep striving for constant improvement.

Sincerely,



Kenna M. Colley
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs