



February 17, 2022

The Association for the Advancement of  
Sustainability in Higher Education  
2401 Walnut St., Suite 102  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my distinct pleasure to present Saint Joseph's College of Maine's third submission to AASHE's STARS. This report is an outstanding representation of campus-wide collaboration and a reflection of our commitment to sustainability and resilience work across the curriculum, campus, and community.

Saint Joseph's College sits on 474 verdant acres of rolling hills, mixed forest, and 2,100 feet of waterfront on Sebago Lake, the second largest lake in Maine and source of drinking water for nearly 1/6th of the state. The College's identity and mission as a Mercy institution are closely interwoven with the beauty and environmental quality of the Lakes Region, and maintaining these qualities is essential to preserving our identity and critical to the economic viability of the area. Environmental stewardship and social justice are integral parts of Saint Joseph's College's ethos and are expressed through our commitment to sustainability and community.

One of the surprising aspects of sustainability reporting is that coming together to evaluate every area of the campus, from physical plant to outreach and engagement, academics to administration and planning, is a powerful reminder that collaboration is our only way forward. It is through this intentional community-wide collaboration that we will be better able to teach the next generations of leaders to be advocates for the Earth and all its inhabitants.

We greatly appreciate AASHE's continuing efforts to advance sustainability efforts in higher education and have found the STARS tool to be valuable for benchmarking and advancing our own sustainability and resilience work. Saint Joseph's College is committed to this important work and our newest submission clearly demonstrates that we are continuing to reach for new and innovative ways to deepen our commitment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James S. Dlugos".

James S. Dlugos, Ph.D.  
President