

## **BOSTON COLLEGE**

INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH, PLANNING & ASSESSMENT

February 4, 2019

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

Dear STARS Steering Committee,

I am pleased to verify that the information submitted in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) accurately reflects the data and programs of Boston College to the best of our knowledge. We are proud to participate in the STARS program, which highlights the university's commitment to sustainable work across our campus, community and world.

Boston College recognizes there are limits to the world's resources, and as such, seeks to follow our motto of "Ever to Excel" in environmental stewardship and sustainability. Through our academic offerings and outreach, we look to engage our students in research and programs that will give them the tools and understanding to become advocates for the environment long after they leave Boston College.

In our day-to-day operations, Boston College is committed to designing and constructing sustainable buildings, finding innovative ways to conserve energy and water while minimizing waste and emissions. Our students are always looking for new ways to improve sustainability on campus with efforts ranging from their eleven sustainability initiative clubs to their top placement in the Spring 2018 Recyclemania competition.

Boston College is proud of its sustainability efforts in local communities. For example, our Lynch School of Education continues to make impressive strides with Massachusetts urban public school students in the science and enterprise of hydroponic gardening. Our research has shown that engaging youth to grow and care for their plants sparks interest and curiosity in science and increases students' self-confidence. Looking further beyond our region, we recently launched the Global Observatory on Pollution and Health. This will track efforts to control pollution and prevent diseases that account for an estimated nine million deaths worldwide each year.

Through the STARS submission process, Boston College has identified many of our programs and initiatives that promote sustainability across our university. We are dedicated to these efforts and look forward to advancing our work in the future.

Thank you for your support throughout this rating process and for the opportunity to participate in this important sustainability endeavor.

Sincerely,

Kelli J. Armstrong, Ph.D.

Vice President, Planning & Assessment