

Office of the President

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April 22, 2016

STARS

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

Re: Portland State University's STARS 2016 submission

Wavel.

On behalf of Portland State University, I am pleased to submit the results of our fourth STARS assessment. I affirm this report to be an honest and accurate account of sustainability programs and practices on campus.

PSU's remains committed to sustainability in every aspect of the institution—from curriculum and operations to research and community partnerships. This new submission of data maintains our STARS Gold rating and illustrates continued progress toward a culture of stewardship, conservation, interdisciplinary thinking, and innovative problem solving.

Over the past year PSU has made numerous sustainability achievements in both operations and academics. We have made strides in operational sustainability by enacting a travel offset program, increasing the number of efficiency projects through the University's Green Revolving Fund, becoming Salmon Safe certified, creating an additional reuse room on campus for art supplies, achieving LEED platinum certification for the Collaborative Life Sciences Center, and becoming a Platinum-rated Bicycle Friendly University.

On the academic front, our Living Lab program continues to pair the innovation of our students and faculty with the expertise of our operational staff to make progress on campus sustainability goals. Two new, highly interdisciplinary graduate certificates were created—Energy Policy and Management and Sustainable Food Systems—and the Portland Climate Action Collaborative is matching the research needs of the City of Portland with faculty and student expertise to address climate change. As always, the University continues to push multiple sustainability-related research agendas. This spring the PSU Institute for Sustainable Solutions launched a new grants program to support research addressing the intersection of cities and sustainability.

PSU takes seriously its motto, Let Knowledge Serve the City, and sustainability is a key part of our contribution. I appreciate the opportunity to share these highlights with your organization and I look forward to reporting on our continued innovation in the years to come.

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President