



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
WHITEWATER

Office of the Chancellor

April 8, 2015

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
1536 Wynkoop St., Suite 100
Denver, CO 80202

On behalf of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, I am pleased to present the results of our first campus assessment of sustainability using the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS).

Sustainability has been and continues to be a priority of UW-Whitewater. As evidence of that commitment, we signed the American College and University President's Climate Commitment in 2007 and became an AASHE member in 2008. Completing the STARS report is an important step for us. It reflects our efforts to lead in operational sustainability practices, such as the campus-wide implementation of outdoor LED light fixtures, and shows our progress in academics, as best represented by the launch of the Environmental Science major. It also highlights our success in engaging students in meaningful co-curricular opportunities, such as RecycleMania, that provide experiences and knowledge necessary for active citizenship and good stewardship of our natural resources. The STARS report also reflects our focus and commitment to inclusive excellence and diversity, and our strongly-held belief that a college education should be accessible to everyone who wants one.

UW-Whitewater's participation in STARS provides us with an excellent, comprehensive snapshot of our performance against a benchmark of best practices in campus sustainability. The results of this assessment will be used to help us craft a sustainability strategic plan that will be used to reinforce and maintain our successful programs and to identify gaps in our efforts. The strategic plan will help us develop a more robust sustainability program. My expectation is that our sustainability program will encourage collaboration across a variety of departments at our university, as well as continued partnerships with our local community, and allow us to be leaders in this important effort.

I affirm that the information included in our STARS report is accurate to the best of our abilities. We plan to continue the measurements of these indicators, at minimum, every three years to re-certify our STARS rating. We look forward to using the results from STARS to inform the campus community and general public of our efforts, to celebrate our successes, and to help us continue to make progress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Telfer".

Richard Telfer
Chancellor
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

RT/eaw