

Sterling College

Working Hands. Working Minds.

January 28, 2016

Ms. Meghan Fay Zahniser
Executive Director
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
1536 Wynkoop St. Suite 100
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Ms. Zahniser:

Sterling College is *the* leading voice for environmental stewardship in higher education. We believe that by educating tomorrow's stewards of the planet's soil, water, food, energy, and climate, we are engaged in the most important work of the 21st century. We are an authentic and revolutionary educational model. We have been since our founding in 1958, and we will continue to be so in the future.

This is our second report to AASHE using the STARS reporting tool. I am affirming that all of the information in our submission has been checked for accuracy. Since our last report, we have moved towards even greater gains in sustainability.

This is the second year we were ranked by the Real Food Challenge as #1 in the nation for eating food that was just, sustainable, local, and fair-trade—and once again did so by a wide margin. We also launched the College to Farm program, a first-of-its kind program where veterans who earn a degree at Sterling in either Sustainable Agriculture or Sustainable Food Systems will get \$10,000 post-graduation as “seed” money for their farm or food-based businesses. Associate Dean Dr. Pavel Cenkl made headlines for completing a grueling run across Iceland to highlight climate change and climate resilience to the outdoor adventure community.

As we look ahead to the near future, we anticipate being the first college in the Northeast to power its electricity solely from on-campus solar power; to launch the School of the New American Farmstead, which will offer our curriculum in sustainable agriculture and food systems to continuing education students; and to move forward in eliminating fossil fuels to heat our buildings.

Thank you for your review of our submission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Derr', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Matthew Derr
President