



The **Courage** to Question Convention.  
The **Passion** to Break New Ground.  
The **Insight** to Champion Community.  
The **Imagination** to Pursue the Undiscovered.  
The **Will** to Achieve Greatness.  
The **Promise** of a Limitless Future.  
The **People** to Bring It to Life.  
**It's Happening Here.**

January 19, 2011

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education  
213 ½ N. Limestone  
Lexington, KY 40507

Re: University of Louisville STARS submission

The University of Louisville is proud to be a charter participant in the Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS), administered by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). We remain excited about collaborating with other AASHE member institutions to lead the sustainability transformation in higher education.

UofL has adopted the STARS framework as our primary tool for monitoring university-wide progress on sustainability for several reasons:

1. It is the only system of its kind that involves publicly reporting comprehensive information about a college or university's sustainability performance in all three areas that matter most: education & research, operations, and planning, administration & engagement;
2. The criteria that determine a STARS rating are transparent and accessible to anyone, yet flexible enough to fit the special circumstances of any institution; and
3. The STARS system of earned credits allows us to not only monitor our own progress over time and to plan strategically, but to compare our sustainability performance with similar institutions throughout North America.

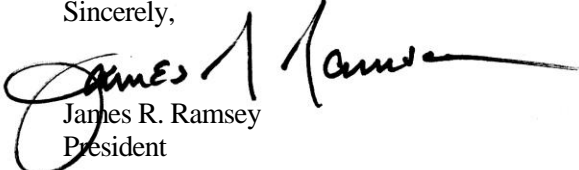
Participation in STARS helps keep UofL accountable for making continual progress on our commitment to sustainability, as reflected in our 2020 Plan. After a considerable amount of internal investigation, data-gathering, and analysis over the last year, the University of Louisville is delighted to submit our first STARS assessment in support of our Silver rating.

In achieving STARS Silver, we have exceeded our initial goals for this year – a genuine reflection of the tremendous strides we've recently made in everything from energy efficiency and climate action planning, to student and community engagement in sustainability, to the incorporation of sustainability themes in curriculum development and research agendas.

It is also a testament to the dedication of our Sustainability Council and the many faculty, staff and students from across our diverse University who are helping ensure that UofL continues to maintain outstanding academic performance and financial security while balancing environmental, social and economic concerns.

I hereby affirm the accuracy of the information contained in the University of Louisville's January 2011 STARS submission and look forward to advancing our rating in coming years.

Sincerely,



James R. Ramsey  
President