



## Office of the President

February 14, 2023

The Association for the Advancement  
of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)

**Subject: The American College of Greece: 2023 STARS Submission.**

Dear STARS Steering Committee,

On behalf of The American College of Greece, I am pleased to submit our fourth Sustainability Tracking Assessment & Rating report.

ACG's commitment to sustainable development arises from its tradition of concerned citizenship and moral duty depicted in its founding motto: "Non ministrari sed ministrare" ("to serve not to be served") and from a desire to lead by example. ACG is gradually developing an ever-growing number of sustainability best practices addressing issues from carbon footprint, to energy efficiency and social impact, to sustainability focus in academic programs and research, as well as further enhancement of transparency, diversity, and accountability.

At ACG we place a strong emphasis on providing our students – the leaders of tomorrow – with the knowledge, values, and experiences needed to navigate this everchanging environment while acting as engaged and responsible citizens and professionals, in order to help create a more socially, economically and environmentally sustainable world.

The report reflects a collective three-year effort coordinated by the Office of Sustainability - Public Affairs and supported by all ACG departments– including all academic departments, the Office of Operations, Technical Services, the ACG Center of Excellence in Sustainability and the Theodore Papalexopoulos Chair in Sustainability at the Alba Graduate Business School.

Below you will find some of the highlights of the period January 2020 – February 2023:

- In the context of promoting sustainability through the Curriculum:
  - ✓ The Sustainable Economics and Finance Minor, which aims to educate future leaders on ESG concepts, was launched.
  - ✓ The Center of Excellence in Sustainability Academic Advisory Board was established with academics from all ACG schools and the Senior Manager for Sustainability.
- Deree IT students, using the "campus as a living lab", designed the Reuse@ACG exchange platform contributing to ACG's waste minimization efforts.



- In the context of advocating for public policy in sustainability-related issues at a national level ACG:
  - ✓ Became a member of the National Alliance for the elimination of food waste. The Association operates under the auspices of the Ministry of Environment and Energy.
  - ✓ Actively participates in the Corporate Responsibility Committee of American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce.
  - ✓ Participates in the consultation process of the Sustainable Transportation and Commuting Plan of the local Municipality in which ACG operates.
- In collaboration with CSR Hellas and the University of Crete, the 4rth annual CSR School took place. Forty business professionals were educated on key areas of sustainability.
- The Student-Run endowment was launched. This investment fund enhances student learning by providing a small group of select ACG students with a hands-on opportunity to invest and manage a fund of significant magnitude following sustainable investment practices.
- ACG's commitment to providing quality educational opportunities to refugees continues. This is the fifth year of the Education Unites program, which provides full scholarships to eligible refugees in Athens allowing them to obtain undergraduate and graduate degrees. In collaboration with the U.S. Embassy in Athens, the program was also extended to Ukrainian refugees.
- The "GRIFFINS GREEN DEREE ATHLETICS" plan was launched aiming at reducing ACG's environmental impact through all athletic activities.
- The ACG Senior Manager for Sustainability got elected to the Global AASHE Board of Directors.
- ACG is added as an official partner in EC New Bauhaus Initiative. The New European Bauhaus initiative connects the European Green Deal to our living spaces. It calls on all Europeans to imagine and build together a sustainable and inclusive future that is beautiful for our eyes, minds, and souls.

As you will see in the report we submit, ACG remains committed to further enhancing sustainable development best practices and culture among all our constituents.

Sincerely,

David G. Horner, PhD  
President  
The American College of Greece