



Julie Baca
Western Colorado University
1 Western Way
Gunnison, CO 81231

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AASHE
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear AASHE STARS Team,

As a proud member institution of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, we are pleased to submit to you our second STARS report for your review. Western was able to achieve a bronze rating through our first report in 2016 and we hope to build on that success in 2019! STARS has proven to be a valuable tool for our university and especially for our sustainability staff.

Western has worked hard over the past 30 years to integrate sustainability into the core values of the university. STARS has helped us focus our efforts through the in-depth analysis of Academics, Engagement, Operations, Planning/Administration, and Innovation. Our Sustainable Action Committee and Director of Sustainability used STARS to help guide their strategic planning efforts this past year and have used it for marketing purposes surrounding recruitment and retention. We have also just expanded to include an Outdoor Industry MBA that teaches students several fundamental sustainability principles. These are just a few examples of the progress we have made since our first submission.

In conclusion, I am pleased to write this letter of support for our team that has been working on this report for the past several months. I am confident that they have done their best to accurately reflect Western's sustainability efforts. Thank you!

Best Regards,

Julie Baca
Chief Financial Officer; Executive Vice President
Western Colorado University