

February 27, 2019

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

I am writing today to endorse the accompanying Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) data submission from Calvin College. This data has been thoroughly reviewed by our staff and the Energy and Environmental Sustainability Faculty Governance Committee. Our submission is a conscientious assessment of the college's current level of activities related to sustainability.

As an educational community, Calvin College has been committed to sustainability as a tangible way to demonstrate responsible stewardship of God's creation. The college is guided by two key governing documents that reflect this commitment: (1) the college *Statement of Sustainability*, which provides a foundation for our sustainability work; and (2) the college's current *Strategic Plan*, which highlights sustainability goals for our educational framework, scholarly agenda, and operational practices.

The college has committed to collecting and reviewing the STARS data on an annual basis. The STARS data form a subset of the data we use in monitoring progress toward our Strategic Planning goals. This year we completed our third STARS submission. Below is a list of highlights from what we learned from the STARS process this year.

1. The college committed itself to the Second Nature Climate Commitment on Dec. 7, 2017. Although not reflected in the FY 2017–2018 STARS data, this year we have already collected carbon emissions data to serve as the benchmark in relation to the 2047 carbon neutrality goal as specified in the commitment.
2. A campus-wide commuting survey was conducted for the first time. Survey responses provided detail for monitoring more of our Scope 3 carbon emissions. Even more importantly, the survey respondents provided a wealth of ideas for sustainable commuting options that they would be excited about. These ideas for sustainable transportation will be evaluated and some of these could potentially be implemented in the near future.
3. Co-curricular peer sustainability education in the Student Life Division has expanded in influence and now reaches 100% of students. Calvin students continue to be one of the college's most vibrant expressions of its commitment to creation care.
4. Our Investment Committee has moved the needle on percentage investments in ESG industries and funds and discusses ESG concerns as a regular agenda item. Again, students are helping to lead the way. A student investment committee implements ESG investment strategies and provides analysis, reporting to the Investment Committee on a regular basis.

Our efforts toward sustainability continue to grow in both enthusiasm and in practice. We continue to be grateful for the AASHE's STARS questionnaire, which provides a structure for improving and measuring sustainability efforts on our campus and beyond. Thank you for this opportunity for accountability and guidance as we press on toward a sustainable vision.

Sincerely,



Michael K. Le Roy  
President