



February 26, 2018

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
2401 Walnut Street Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

To Whom It May Concern:

The accompanying submission of information to the STARS reporting system regarding sustainability programs and activities at Austin College is correct to the best of our knowledge. It was prepared by the Director of our Center for Environmental Studies, Dr. Peter Schulze, Professor of Biology & Environmental Science, and the Coordinator of the Center for Environmental Studies, Kelby Archer. Several other College officials assisted with the accumulation of necessary data.

Austin College President Emeritus Oscar Page signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (now the Second Nature Carbon Commitment) in 2008. Since that time, we have reduced our greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent, despite an 18 percent increase in the campus building footprint. In FY 2016, we completed a switch to wind-generated electricity through the purchase of renewable energy credits. Our science building, the IDEA Center, was awarded LEED Gold Certification in 2013 for its design and the design of its surroundings.

Students have been heavily involved in all of our sustainability efforts, from assisting with greenhouse gas inventories, running our annual electricity saving competition (AC Unplugged), and planning our green service day (GreenServe) to administering our Student Sustainability Fund. Students in Environmental Studies propose campus greening initiatives, more than 30 of which have been adopted so far. Austin College students have led over 10,000 schoolchildren on field trips to our nearby Sneed experimental prairie restoration site.

Thank you for reviewing this information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven P. O'Day".

Steven P. O'Day