

July 29, 2011

STARS Steering Committee  
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)  
213 ½ North Limestone  
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee:

Virginia Tech is proud to be a charter participant in AASHE's "Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS)." We are committed to being a leader in campus sustainability. It is my pleasure to endorse and affirm that Virginia Tech's STARS submission accurately reflects the sustainability initiatives and progress to date on our campus.

We believe STARS has been a useful tool in benchmarking our progress towards a more sustainable campus. Our commitment to sustainability was initiated by students in 2007. In 2009, our Board of Visitors unanimously approved The Virginia Tech Climate Action Commitment Resolution (VTCAC), which was accompanied by a Sustainability Plan specific to the university. This resulted in the creation of the Office of Energy and Sustainability, establishment of targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, an emphasis on energy efficiency, and an institutional commitment to pursue LEED Silver certification or better for all new construction and major renovation projects. We are pleased to report that we have made tremendous progress toward our goals, and are continually implementing additional initiatives to achieve a more sustainable future.

The STARS program proves to be a valuable tool today, and it will play an even bigger role for us in the future. Thank you for this opportunity to participate in STARS and to learn from our peers as we work together to advance sustainability in higher education.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Steger  
President