

March 19, 2013

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 continues to be proud to have been a charter participant in AASHE's "Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS)." We are committed to maintaining our leadership role 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 actively use STARS as the primary tool for 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, increased recycling and alternative transportation rates, an institutional commitment to pursue LEED Silver certification or better for all new construction and major renovation projects, and continued student engagement in campus sustainability. 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 continues to evolve and offer greater opportunities for colleges and universities. We are pleased to advance our program to version 1.2 which, we believe, provides us with even better sustainability tracking tools. Thank you for this opportunity to continue our participation in STARS and to learn from our peers as we work together to advance sustainability in higher education.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Steger
President

Invent the Future