



FLORIDA'S STEM UNIVERSITY

December 7, 2023

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

Re: STARS Reporting and Commitment to Sustainability

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee,

Florida Tech's commitment to the environment begins at home. Our university recognizes the importance of sustainability, having built one of the longest-running STEM-based academic and campus programs in the southern United States. Such innovation is made possible by long-standing collaborations among Florida Tech faculty, staff, students, and our community members, and it is with great pleasure and commitment that I present this executive letter in support of our institution's ongoing dedication to sustainability and our participation in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS).

Our institution remains steadfast in its pledge to foster sustainability across our academic, operational, and community initiatives. Infusing sustainability acknowledges and reflects our steadfast commitment to environmental responsibility, our community, and collective global challenges.

Prioritizing sustainability and having become one of fewer than 10 STEM-based undergraduate majors in the southern US, Florida Tech prides itself in evolving 180 graduates with Sustainability BS and minor programs; 20 graduates with Sustainability majors; and 160 graduates with minors in Sustainability.

STARS has recognized Florida Tech with bronze and silver rankings, and we continue to exemplify commitment by including sustainable practices in our day-to-day operations. We have also engaged in LEED Building Certification for two buildings and participate in Tree Campus USA. These efforts have been pivotal in shaping a culture that values environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic resilience.

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As we look ahead, our aspirations include maintaining and even surpassing our Silver STARS ratings; ensuring new projects hold meaningful change to impact our environment positively; and continuing to create and adopt sustainability strategy for our institution that promotes even further student, academic, and community involvement through engagement.

Florida Tech's historic contributions, current work and future objectives signify our unwavering dedication to advancing sustainability across all facets of our institution. We are inspired by the AASHE community for their dedication and passion toward sustainability thru the STARS self-reporting tool. Together, we remain committed to fostering the priority of a more sustainable future and look forward to continued expansion and development of sustainable action for Florida Tech that will benefit and better our community and beyond.

Sincerely,

Brian Leslie
Vice President of Operations
Florida Institute of Technology