

January 21, 2011

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
213 ½ North Limestone
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee:

The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) is committed to environmental sustainability in all aspects of its mission. We continue to challenge ourselves to perform all of our functions with sustainability as our guiding force. UIC has a history of striving to integrate sustainability into all our operations and since the mid-1990's established the UIC Recycling Program, followed by the institution of the public transit U-PASS for students, and the current energy conservation and renewable energy initiatives.

UIC began this path to interdisciplinary work in environmental sustainability with the founding of the Institute for Environmental Science and Policy in 2002. This was followed by the establishment of the Office of Sustainability and the Chancellor's Committee on Sustainability and Energy in 2008. The Jane Addams Hull House Museum operates an heirloom farm and stimulates discussion about sustainable food systems through its weekly *Rethinking Soup* forums. A cross-disciplinary faculty member in the area of Sustainable Energy was hired this past fall to further advance research and education in sustainability across our campus. This fall, Physical Plant and the Mechanical Engineering Department collaborated on a course to teach energy auditing in which our own facility was audited by the students. And we are particularly proud of our work on UIC's Diversity Strategic Plan which will be released in the coming year.

UIC chose to participate in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) as a means to monitor our progress beginning as a pilot campus in 2008. We proudly continue our tracking as a STARS Charter participant. UIC hereby respectfully submits our assessment in support of our STARS Bronze rating.

We look forward to improvements in our rating as the culture of our campus community continues to grow and we strive to be responsible stewards of the environment.

Sincerely,



Paula Allen-Meares
Vice President of the University of Illinois
Chancellor of the Chicago Campus
John Corbally Presidential Professor



Mark Donovan
Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services