



The John T. Lyle Center
for Regenerative Studies

April 15, 2013

To whom it may concern:

This letter attests to the innovativeness of the work by the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona on its *Environmental Impact Inventory of the Collins College of Hospitality Management*, completed in 2012. The Collins College has a goal of leadership in sustainability, among hospitality management programs around the world, and this document was a critical initial step. As an academic entity which also operates a commercial restaurant facility, the College is uniquely positioned to examine the environmental impact of food service, develop and implement strategies to reduce the impact, and integrate these approaches into contemporary hospitality management curriculum.

This study was innovative in two key ways: 1) it examined the state of the art in climate change impact modeling for food systems, critiqued the advantages and disadvantages of various modeling strategies, including economic input-output life cycle analysis and process life cycle analysis, and integrated them into a comprehensive analysis of a food service operation; 2) the study effectively synthesized facility operations and curriculum, through the utilization of the restaurant and the entire College as a “living laboratory” where students examine the environmental impact of hospitality and reconsider best management practices.

As evidence of the project’s academic significance, multiple articles are currently being prepared by faculty involved in the study, for peer-review publication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Brown'.

Kyle D. Brown, Ph.D., ASLA
Director, Lyle Center for Regenerative Studies

