



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 ***Regenerative Community Initiative***. The Lyle Center's mission is to advance environmental sustainability through regeneration through education, research, demonstration and outreach. Our approach places the emphasis on the development of physical, social, and economic systems which restore, renew, or regenerate themselves over time, as the key to developing sustainable communities. In 2012 the Center initiated an ambitious outreach effort to comprehensively address the challenge of cultivating sustainability in marginalized communities. This effort seeks to regenerate such communities by empowering local residents to plan and act for themselves, illuminate pathways to higher education and environmental careers for elementary students, and engage the community in an asset-based approach for growing leadership on environmental and community issues. Unlike many other sustainability outreach efforts by Universities, this initiative seeks to transform the University-community relationship from one of expert-passive recipient to one of facilitator-agent for action.

This initiative builds on the University's commitment to play a leadership role on climate change and sustainability issues. Organizations such as the Ernest Prete, Jr. Foundation and the Boeing Foundation have found this approach to be new and innovative, and have provided financial support for this effort.

Sincerely,

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

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

