

February 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

In 2013, Sterling College announced scholarships for applicants working to reverse the effects of climate change. The College renewed the scholarships for 2014-15, and is on track to renew them once again.

As you know, Sterling College's mission is to educate environmental stewards. The focus of its majors in Ecology, Environmental Humanities, Outdoor Education, and Sustainable Agriculture gives students broad exposure to the key issues associated with climate justice, and prepares them to make important contributions to the wellbeing of humanity and protection of the natural world. There is one full-tuition scholarship available each year, renewable for up to four years of enrollment, in recognition of the leadership an admitted student has offered through environmental stewardship and climate justice activism. The College also awards ten \$5,000 to \$10,000 merit scholarships to admitted students in recognition of the commitments they have made to environmental stewardship.

In my opinion, Sterling College is one of the most important places in this country. Any institution can announce its ideals; great ones live them out—in the curriculum, on the campus, and in the portfolio. This is the only scholarship of this kind in the U.S. The College now has two Climate Justice scholars on campus: Julia "Lou" Lepping, who fought against mountaintop removal in her native Appalachia region, and Nathan Welleford, who has studied glacial melt in Wyoming.

Sterling College's work in providing access to higher education for those already working on issues of climate justice is surely an innovation.

Sincerely,



Bob Durand, President
Durand & Anastas Environmental Strategies
President, Massachusetts Outdoor Heritage Foundation
Former Massachusetts Environmental Affairs Secretary