



May 16, 2015

Mr. Andrew Horning
Graham Sustainability Institute
University of Michigan
625 E. Liberty Street, Suite 300
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Dear Mr. Horning:

I write to lend my support for the Michigan Journal of Sustainability in its bid to earn the University of Michigan an Innovation credit through the AASHE STARS program.

Translating complex sustainability science so that it is accessible by and understandable to a wide range of practitioners is critically important. And while there are various entities working to accomplish that goal, I am unaware of any student-led efforts that approach what University of Michigan students are doing with the Michigan Journal of Sustainability. The Michigan Journal translates a broad base of peer-reviewed faculty work – spanning topics like climate, water, and livable communities – into an easy-to-read, jargon-free format. This novel platform and approach is a powerful first step toward making sustainability science accessible to a wide range of audiences and helping to make sustainability research policy relevant.

The Michigan Journal of Sustainability is truly an innovative, student-led effort in academia today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Hamburg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Steven Hamburg, Ph.D.
Chief Scientist
Environmental Defense Fund