



March 1, 2020

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee,

In our ongoing commitment to promoting environmental sustainability and reducing our carbon footprint, both within and beyond our campus, we are pleased to submit our third STARS report following submissions in 2011 and 2014.

Our Sustainability Committee, composed of faculty, staff and students, has taken the lead on preparing the report with significant assistance from undergraduate research interns through our Hickory Scholars Research program. This allowed us to better promote our sustainability efforts on campus and involve a larger number of students, faculty and staff in the process.

This report will show that we continue to add numerous courses and majors to our curriculum with an emphasis on sustainability, including a master's degree in environmental education. We now have three semester-long, immersive courses of study--two are in-residence at our Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center, and one at our marine biology facility in the Florida Keys. In 2016, we updated our Climate Action Plan to detail specific areas of sustainability, with commitments to continue reducing GHG emissions and strengthen sustainability across campus. In 2018, after years of implementing measures to reduce our energy consumption, we took the step of installing 924 solar PV panels on the roof of our Rec-Fitness building. These panels are in addition to solar panels and a wind generator on the Merry Lea campus.

Sustainability is a core commitment of Goshen College as we fulfill our mission to “transform local and global communities through courageous, creative and compassionate leaders. Shaped by Anabaptist-Mennonite tradition, we aim to integrate academic excellence and real-world experience with active love for God and neighbor.”

The STARS process has provided a useful framework as we assess our current status with regard to sustainability and set goals for the future. Thank you for reviewing our report.

In Peace,



Rebecca J Stoltzfus
President