June 17, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I am honored to present Siena Heights University’s first submission to AASHE’s Sustainability Tracking Assessment & Rating System (STARS). As President of Siena Heights University, I am pleased to approve this submission.

Within the Siena Heights University 2016 Strategic Plan, we prominently embrace sustainability in objective 4.2, which states to “Promote the concept and practice of sustainability throughout University processes and encouraged student participation.” As a reflection of this goal, sustainability at Siena Heights University has grown to include a multidisciplinary sustainability committee, student internship program, The William Issa Endowed Environmental Lecture Series, our LEED-certified McLaughlin University Center, our environmental documentary film series, the Environmental Protection Agency’s air quality flag program, our National Wildlife Federation-certified native pollinator garden, Earth week events, our green chemistry commitment, and our partnership with the Adrian Dominican Sisters’ permaculture office.

For the past three years, two professors and twelve student interns have been diligently collecting sustainability data from our campus stakeholders, including the Biology Department, Building and Grounds/ Custodial Department, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Technology Services, Office of Human Resources, SHU Dining Services, Business Office, Facilities and Grounds of the Adrian Dominican Sisters, and the Adrian Dominican Sisters. After uploading the campus data into the STARS tool, we are excited by the prospect of receiving a provisional bronze rating. With this rating, we are honored to join the international community of STARS institutions striving for a more sustainable future. I am thankful for all those who collected and validated the information detailed in our report, and as we continue to make our campus more sustainable, I look forward to future submissions.

Sincerely,

Sr. Peg Albert, OP, Ph.D.
President