West Chester University

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STARS in our Eyes: Documenting WCU Sustainability Efforts

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WCU Sustainability Research and Practice Seminar
25 March 2020

STARS in our Eyes: Documenting WCU Sustainability Efforts
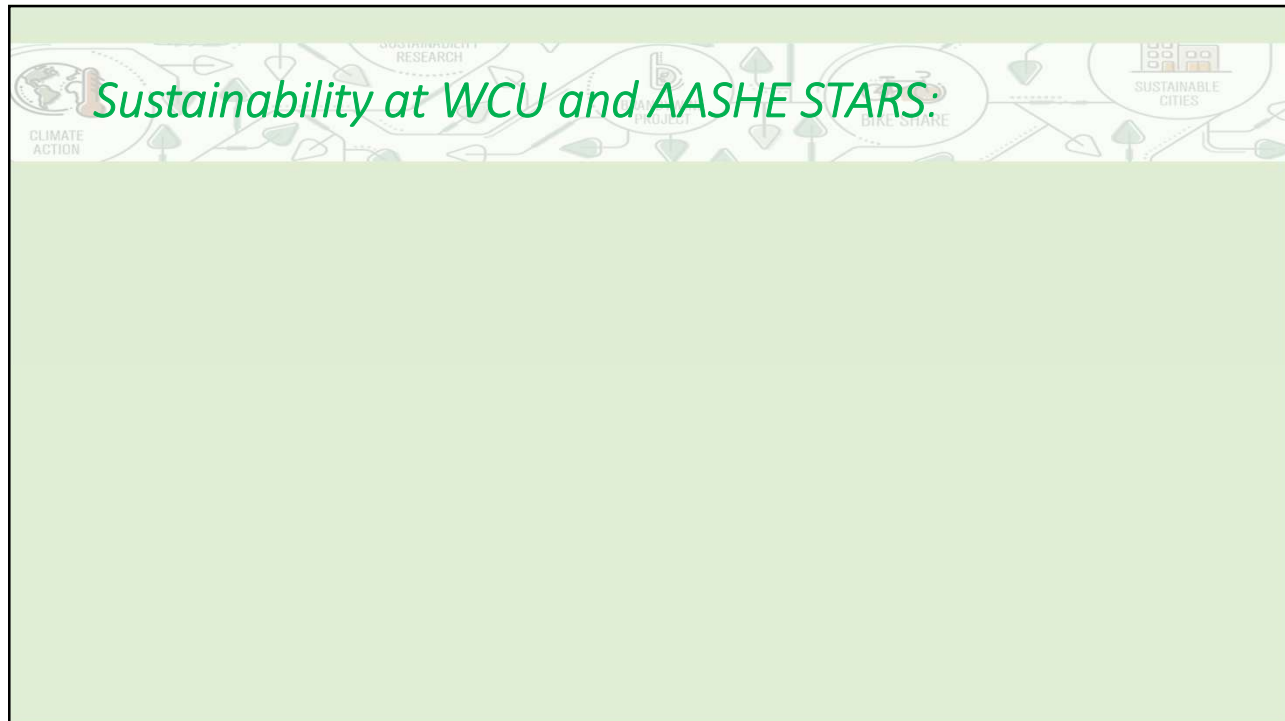Bradley Flamm, Director, WCU Office of Sustainability

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Today we'll discuss:

Sustainability at WCU and AASHE STARS
From Bronze to Silver
Where to from here

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Sustainability at WCU and AASHE STARS:

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Sustainability at WCU

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How sustainability matters at WCU

- careers and citizenship
- organizational efficiency, operational costs, risk
- giving and funding
- students and employees
- community relations and new partnerships
- grand challenges and sense of purpose

* From Beyond the Right Thing to Do: The Value of Sustainability in Higher Education (an AASHE publication)**.**

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How STARS matters at WCU

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How STARS matters at WCU

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From Reporter to Bronze to Silver*:

* Provisional for now

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Provisional results for 2020

From: stars_notifier@aashe.org <stars_notifier@aashe.org>
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2020 12:14 PM
To: Flamm, Bradley <BFLAMM@wcupa.edu>
Cc: crystal.simmons@aashe.org
Subject: Thank you for your STARS submission

Dear Bradley Flamm,

Your institution's STARS Report has been successfully submitted. Based on the information in the report, West Chester University of Pennsylvania has submitted for a provisional STARS Silver Rating.

NEXT STEPS TO FINALIZE YOUR INSTITUTION'S RATING

As a benefit of paid participation in STARS, AASHE staff will work with you to help ensure the accuracy of your report before it is published and a rating is awarded:

1) AASHE staff will review about one-third of all credits (including randomly selected credits) to ensure that

* Copy of the *provisional* report located here: https://www.wcupa.edu/Sustainability/carbonneutralityplan.aspx.

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Recognition Level		Minimum Overall Score	
	Reporter designation	n/a	← *WCU in 2012*
	Bronze Rating	25	
	Silver Rating	45	← *WCU 36.91 in 2018* ← *WCU 52.38 in 2020 (provisional)*
	Gold Rating	65	
	Platinum Rating	85	

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*Comparison to our peers**

University	Rank	Version	Submission Date
Appalachian State University	Gold	2.1	4/19/2019
College of Charleston	Registered to Use STARS, No Submissions		
University of North Carolina Wilmington	Silver	2	4/26/2016
University of Wisconsin La Crosse	Silver	2	5/20/2015
Western Washington University	Silver	2.1	3/1/2019

* From the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).

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Comparison to regional institutions*

University	Rank	Version	Submission Date
Pennsylvania State University	Gold	2.1	9/14/2017
Temple University	Silver	2.1	2/21/2018
University of Delaware	Bronze	2.1	1/31/2020
Drexel University	Registered to Use STARS, No Submissions		
Millersville University	Registered to Use STARS, No Submissions		
Bloomsburg University	Not Listed		
Rowan University	Not Listed		
Saint Joseph's University	Not Listed		
Widener University	Not Listed		
LaSalle University	Not Listed		

* As identified by WCU's Student Affairs Division.

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Comparison to PASSHE institutions

University	Rank	Version	Submission Date
Slippery Rock University	Silver	2.1	2/22/2019
Clarion University	Registered to Use STARS, No Submissions		
Millersville University	Registered to Use STARS, No Submissions		
Shippensburg University	Registered to Use STARS, No Submissions		
Bloomsburg University	Not Listed		
California University of PA	Not Listed		
Cheyney University	Not Listed		
East Stroudsburg University	Not Listed		
Edinboro University	Not Listed		
Indiana University of PA	Not Listed		
Kutztown University	Not Listed		
Lock Haven University	Not Listed		
Mansfield University	Not Listed		

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A quick look at 2020 vs 2018

Category	2020	2018	Trend
Report Preface	0	0	↔
Academics	33.97 / 58.00	21.30 / 58.00	⬆
Engagement	18.60 / 41.00	14.29 / 41.00	⬆
Operations	29.72 / 69.00	23.93 / 70.00	⬆
Planning & Administration	17.46 / 32.00	14.66 / 32.00	⬆
Innovation & Leadership	02.50 / 02.50	00.00 / 00.00	⬆

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Where WCU shines:

Grounds
Wellbeing and Work
Public Engagement
Energy

The Brandywine Project
Geo-Exchange Heating and Cooling System
Campus Gardens and the Gordon Natural Area

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Where WCU missed points:

Investment and Finance
Buildings
Campus Engagement
Purchasing

Sustainable Peer Educators
Orientation Programs
Alternatives to Drive-Alone Commuting Support

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Where to from here:

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STARS in our future:

Teaching to the test / Prioritizing to the points?
Two- or three-year cycle of updates?
Sustainability Council committees

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Questions?

Office of Sustainability

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