



June 10, 2021

Roger Williams University is inextricably connected to land and sea. With our main campus on a peninsula on the shores of Mount Hope Bay in Rhode Island, many that come to work or learn at the University are called to the sea.

Our namesake and founder of Rhode Island, Roger Williams, learned from the land and the waters around Narragansett Bay. To the best of his ability, he respected the land and the indigenous peoples of this area. And many of his stories and lessons serve as guideposts for our university strategies and our curriculum.

For our size, nearly 6500 students, Roger Williams is a distinctly complex university with 8 schools of study that span, the arts and sciences and reaches into the professions with unique offerings such as architecture, construction management, engineering, criminal justice, marine science and much more. Our students learn at these intersections and see how collaboration and interdisciplinarity are critical skills to tackle the pressing problems of the world that we call on them to help solve. With emerging strategic planning focus on real estate and blue innovation, RWU sits at the intersection of the natural and built worlds. Our strategies and mission are to build resilient and thriving communities, and graduate students ready to focus on people, planet, prosperity for themselves and for others.

Therefore, our collective past are guided by the culture of RWU and how we must continue to embed sustainability practices, principles, and initiatives into our campus, our classroom learning, and with our community partners.

Early in building our strategic plan, *Excellence by Design*, it became immediately apparent how the STARS tool and process could be used as a catalyst to inventory our current efforts to find successes and identify gaps for where our commitments need to take use.

From the Office of the President down through the organization, we are committed to a process of continuous improvement guided by the STARS process. Sharing results with the campus, targeting new initiatives, and moving us forward together towards a more resilient future in our efforts and the education we provide our students on sustainable principles across the professions they will enter.

President Ioannis Miaoulis  
Roger Williams University