



May 16, 2019

Dear Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) Administrators,

It is with great pride that I submit the Cal State Monterey Bay STARS Report. This report is a reflection of the sustainability accomplishments and ambitions of our campus community. It is also an example of the great teamwork by the staff, students, and faculty that worked diligently to gather and analyze all of the data.

This year, for the first time, a student supported the collection of data. This allowed the process of collecting STARS information to not only serve as a valuable tool for tracking key indicators of sustainability but also allowed a student to gain valuable professional development skills. Student success is our ultimate goal as a University and we are proud to offer students unique opportunities for co-curricular learning.

When comparing this report to the previous report, there is one area that has shown consistent improvement over the past years, that is waste minimization. This topic has been given temporary, dedicated support from the Sustainability Director to "jump start" momentum and action.

Sustainability is an ongoing effort and our campus still has ambitions for improved performance, particularly in the areas of campus engagement and air and climate. The responsibility for sustainability on our campus rests in the hands of every student, faculty and staff. We must meet people where they are and then support their growth and action as sustainability-minded individuals.

Finally, while our campus has taken action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through solar panels and energy efficiency upgrades, the magnitude of risk associated with a changing climate requires a comparable response and we hope to continue to set ambitious goals and then achieve those goals.

The next academic year we will be renewing our Campus Sustainability Plan. We look forward to using this opportunity to further campus sustainability in a thoughtful, impactful way. Thank you for your continued support of campus sustainability efforts. We are proud to be members of AASHE and participate in the STARS process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Ochoa".

Eduardo M. Ochoa
President, California State University Monterey Bay

cc: Kevin Saunders, VP Administration and Finance
Co-Chair President's Sustainability Committee

Brian Corpening, AVP Inclusive Excellence
Co-Chair President's Sustainability Committee

Lacey Raak, Sustainability Director