



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Anthony P. Monaco, *President*

February 28, 2019

Dear Members of the STARS Steering Committee:

In 1990, Tufts President Jean Mayer initiated the Talloires Declaration—a visionary commitment by institutions of higher education to encourage advocacy for sustainability and environmental literacy in teaching, research, operations, and outreach. I am proud to carry forward Tufts’ legacy of sustainability leadership and continue to advance our sustainability ambitions.

In 2016, on behalf of Tufts I signed the Second Nature Climate Commitment, an integrated climate commitment for university leaders on carbon neutrality and resilience. To further solidify Tufts’ position, I convened a new Council for the Sustainability of Campus Operations in February 2017, to provide leadership and oversight for developing and executing a plan for Tufts to reach carbon neutrality. The council will prescribe strategies to engage the full Tufts community in actions to conserve energy use and recommend development of capital projects and operational approaches that minimize the use of fossil fuels.

Guided by these commitments, the past several years have been a time of enormous progress for sustainability at the University. For example, we completed two LEED-certified buildings, a new cogeneration plant, and many building upgrades that have resulted in significant energy savings. We have strengthened our relationships with local food providers for greater sustainability in our dining services. The reach and membership of our peer-to-peer education programs for students and employees, the Eco-Reps and Eco-Ambassadors, have grown. And we have launched several new sustainability-related graduate programs. Our faculty continue to research the impacts of climate change on our world and work on cutting-edge solutions to help mitigate it.

Tufts University recognizes the vital importance of measuring and tracking our sustainability efforts. As we commit to new and more ambitious goals, it is important to reflect upon our accomplishments and identify ways we can continue to make Tufts a more sustainable institution. The STARS platform is an invaluable tool for doing this. It is thus with great pleasure that the University submits its 2019 application to the STARS program, which includes information for our four Massachusetts campuses in Boston, Grafton, and Medford/Somerville from fiscal years 2016, 2017, and 2018. I confirm that the information included in Tufts’ submission is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Monaco".

Anthony P. Monaco
President