



April 10, 2022

Dear STARS Review Committee:

On behalf of the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA), I am pleased to submit the university's fourth self-assessment report to Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS). The report has the most updated and accurate information to the best of the University's knowledge at the time of submission.

UTA is a proud member of the Association for Advancement in Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE): providing leadership to the advancement of sustainability within higher education. UTA chief sustainability officer, Meghna Tare is a member of AASHE's Board of Directors, and UT Arlington provides regional leadership for sustainability in North Texas through the Regional Center of Expertise for Education on Sustainable Development (ESD)

As the largest university in North Texas and second largest in The University of Texas System, UTA is in the heart of Dallas-Fort Worth. UTA offers state-of-the-art facilities that encourage students to be critical thinkers. Through academic, internship, and research programs, our students receive real-world experiences that help them contribute to their community and, ultimately, the world.

This report specifically highlights UTA accomplishments in coordination and planning, diversity and affordability, and curriculum and research. In 2019, UT Arlington launched an update to the Strategic Plan 2025 designed to shape the future of higher education. To realize these goals, the University is focused on a framework of six fundamental guiding principles and five research and creative work themes.

- 1) Health and Human Condition
- 2) Sustainable Communities
- 3) Data Driven Discovery
- 4) Global Environmental Impact
- 5) Cultural and Societal Transformations

In addition to this Strategic Plan, Interim President Teik C. Lim announced seven specific commitments to promote Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at UTA on July 9. Since then, the University has taken steps to fulfill those commitments.

- 1) Recruitment of VP for DEI
- 2) Establishment of Campus Committee on DEI
- 3) Focus on Faculty and Staff Diversity
- 4) Student Scholarships
- 5) Professional and staff development
- 6) Multicultural Affairs Advancement
- 7) Diversity Certificate Program

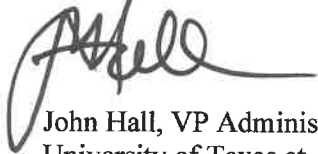
Finally, the University of Texas at Arlington has become the fourth institution in the state to achieve designation as a Texas Tier One university, a significant milestone of excellence in academics and research that brings with it access to the state's National Research University Fund (NRUF). UTA reached or exceeded rigorous benchmarks of quality established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for at least two consecutive years. Those benchmarks include:

1. Surpassing \$45 million in restricted research expenditures
2. Awarding more than 200 Ph.D.'s each year- six years in a row
3. Being designated a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
4. Enrolling a freshman class of high academic achievement, a criterion for which UTA consistently ranks the highest among universities in the running for NRUF designation
5. Having high-quality faculty, as illustrated by the increase in National Academy members

UTA thanks the AASHE community for its commitment to transparency, accountability, and leadership. UTA is committed to continuing our contribution to AASHE's mission of inspiring and catalyzing higher education to lead the global sustainability transformation.

Lastly, I want to express my gratitude to all the departments at UTA that contributed to the holistic assessment of sustainability of our institution. The collective effort has accomplished both accurate data and clear communication about the sustainability achievements across UTA. UTA sustainability is crosscutting across academic curriculum and research, facilities, and administrative operations, and includes our policies and community engagement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Hall', written in a cursive style.

John Hall, VP Administration and Campus Operation  
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