

February 28, 2017

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

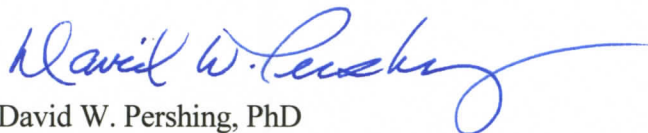
The University of Utah is pleased to submit its second sustainability self-assessment using the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System™ (STARS), and as President, I affirm the accuracy of our submission.

We appreciate the opportunity to participate in STARS. The metrics inherent in STARS establish a framework for measuring success and provide a comprehensive view of sustainability that stimulate action. At the University of Utah, we are dedicated to responsible planning and actions that promote thoughtful stewardship centered on sustainability education, research, administration, and operations. To this end, we have made several structural changes in our sustainability efforts. After a re-evaluation of our sustainability work in 2013, we changed our administrative structure so that our Sustainability Office reports directly to the Chief Academic Officer for the University of Utah.

In that same process, we designated our very successful interdisciplinary Global Change and Sustainability Center as the research arm for sustainability on campus and created a part-time position to help faculty and departments increase their sustainability course offerings. These changes – along with several successful community campaigns such as U Community Solar, U Drive Electric, and Clean Air for U – and our existing programs that partner with students and the campus such as the Sustainable Campus Initiative Fund, the Real Food Challenge, and Green Revolving Loan funds, make clear our investment and belief in sustainability and its importance to our university. The results of this report highlight that we have made good progress but there is still, as always, more to do.

We are committed to continue our role in working to create a more responsible and sustainable world in which to live and learn. We thank you again for the opportunity to use the STARS tool to assess our work and efforts.

Sincerely,



David W. Pershing, PhD  
President

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