

December 18, 2015

Association for Advancement of Sustainability
213 North Limestone Street
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear AASHE Board of Directors:

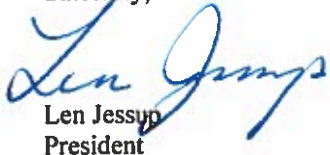
It is my pleasure to submit the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating Systems (STARS) report for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). This report was prepared with the assistance of Tara Pike, Solid Waste, Recycling Manager & Sustainability Coordinator, Dr. Thomas Piechota, Associate Vice President for Interdisciplinary Research, Monica Garcia, Assistant Sustainability Coordinator, and Cheresa Taing, Sustainability Intern.

UNLV is committed to sustainability efforts throughout campus operations, research, education, administration, student life and outreach. The development of UNLV's Sustainability Council in 2015 will prove to be instrumental in bringing together a broad representation of campus stakeholders to work collaboratively on future sustainability projects. Examples of recent successes include:

- In 2015, an additional 350 kilowatts of solar power was installed at UNLV. The university now has a total capacity of approximately 1.2 megawatts.
- Since 1988, nearly 29 acres of turf has been converted to desert landscaping and more conversion is scheduled for 2015 and beyond. The estimated annual water savings due to projects completed since 2000 is over 75 million gallons and the university has received \$987k in rebates. Estimated annual cost avoidance is \$230k.
- Several recent upgrades (primarily the installation of smart energy valves) to our largest HVAC plant is expected to save the university over \$70k in annual energy costs.
- Facilities Management was recently funded for a \$1 million campus LED retrofitting project which will replace approximately 67,000 fluorescent fixtures across the campus.
- UNLV won second place in the international U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon in 2013. The competition challenges collegiate teams to design, build and operate solar-powered-housing prototypes. DesertSol, UNLV's entry, demonstrated advanced engineered systems and top-performing solar design for an energy-saving residential home that thrives in a desert environment. UNLV's team was the only U.S. based team that placed in the top three of this prestigious competition. The DesertSol home is now on permanent display as an educational exhibit at the Las Vegas Springs Preserve.
- A team of UNLV faculty and staff, led by Architecture Professor Alfredo Fernandez-Gonzalez and Engineering Professor David James, won a design award at the 2015 National U.S. Department of Energy Race to Zero Competition, which encourages participation in a leadership movement to create more sustainable homes.
- In 2014, UNLV implemented a \$0.05 surcharge on plastic water bottles sold in the institution's retail locations. This surcharge acts as a fundraising mechanism to install more hydration stations on the campus. To date, one hydration station has already been funded and installed in UNLV's Dining Commons and another is expected to be funded this academic year. Currently, UNLV has over 60 hydration stations throughout the campus.

With the completion of our second STARS report, we are moving forward with the development of an action plan for continual improvement. I am confident the report accurately represents sustainability efforts at UNLV.

Sincerely,



Len Jessup
President