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THE PRESIDENT

March 1, 2018

STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
2401 Walnut Street Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

I am pleased to present the San Diego State University report to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking and Rating System (STARS). I affirm it is an accurate representation of our sustainability efforts. Though the effort was spearheaded by our sustainability officer and student STARS intern, it required collaboration with a wide variety of faculty and staff from across campus.

San Diego State University is committed to leading the region and California State University system in our sustainability efforts, from our operations and engagement to our academics and research. Our true impact will be done by our students who go on to accomplish great things in the world.

SDSU was a charter participant in the AASHE STARS program and we are excited to engage with this program again. We anticipate achieving a Silver rating in this assessment. Since our last assessment in 2012, we have moved sustainability forward in several areas. We are hoping to do the same as we move towards our next assessment.

San Diego State University has a Climate Action Plan committing us to operational carbon neutrality by 2040 and full carbon neutrality by 2050. The number of LEED Certified buildings has increased over the last few years, including our Aztec Student Union which has LEED Platinum certification for both New Construction and Operations & Maintenance. Our Sustainability Major and Minor program has been growing successfully, along with courses in many other majors across campus. The Sage Project collaborates with nearby communities, engaging hundreds of students to solve real world problems, many of which relate to sustainability.

Student organizations, particularly GreenLove and the Enviro-Business Society (e3) promote sustainability through outreach events and efforts to improve campus sustainability practices. We also engage students through internships, including our STARS intern, Travis Freeman, who was responsible for the bulk of this work.

We are proud of the work that we have already accomplished and excited about the work ahead of us. The STARS reports gives us a structure to assess our current performance and determine how we can improve in the future. Thank you for your leadership in campus sustainability.

Sincerely,

Sally Roush President

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