



OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
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LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90095-1405

July 15, 2011

STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
213½ North Limestone
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

On behalf of UCLA, I am pleased to verify that the information presented through the AASHE Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System is complete and accurate to the best of our knowledge and ability. UCLA is proud to be among the charter participants in STARS, the first nationwide, comprehensive and transparent assessment tool developed by universities to measure campus sustainability.

UCLA is committed to leadership in sustainability. With dozens of academic programs and more than 350 courses related to the environment and sustainability—and an award-winning graduate certificate program, Leaders in Sustainability—we are training tomorrow's leaders to address the complex global challenges we face. UCLA researchers are developing solutions to climate change, from compact desalination technology to biofuels made from carbon dioxide and fuel cells powered by sugar.

At UCLA, we are striving to practice what we teach. Our University of California system-wide Sustainable Practices Policy sets targets for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, green buildings, waste diversion, sustainable food practices and more—and UCLA is on track to meet these targets ahead of schedule. Since 1990 UCLA has added nearly 8 million square feet to the campus footprint, an increase of nearly 40 percent, and during the past two decades UCLA research awards and grants have exploded from less than \$300 million to more than \$1 billion annually. Yet over the same two decades, the campus's GHG emissions have remained almost level—a reduction of 26 percent in GHG emissions per square foot—and we are using less water and sending less waste to landfill.

We also are taking steps to further integrate operations with our education and research mission and to create a living laboratory for sustainability by expanding academic programming, infusing sustainability into the curriculum, supporting faculty research that stimulates new technologies and fostering student involvement in finding sustainable solutions to global challenges. Students in the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability's Action Research Team program work

with staff and faculty in hands-on research on campus sustainability, from measuring food waste in the dining halls, to greening fraternities and sororities, to mapping trees on campus using mobile GPS applications. As part of a pilot program, novel smart water technology developed at UCLA is being tested in our cogeneration plant to treat blowdown water from the plant for reuse.

STARS highlights the many extraordinary efforts ongoing at UCLA, from innovative operations to groundbreaking educational programs and cutting-edge research. STARS will enable us to better assess our progress across an array of areas and to share best practices with other campuses and learn from each other.

We appreciate AASHE's efforts to develop useful metrics and a national reporting system for campus sustainability. We look forward to utilizing STARS data internally and collaborating with other STARS participants to further develop UCLA's sustainability programs.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gene Block".

Gene D. Block
Chancellor