



Office of the President

October 10, 2023

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 13103

RE: The University of Texas at San Antonio STARS Assessment Executive Letter

Dear Members of the STARS Steering Committee:

I am pleased to offer my strong support for the University of Texas at San Antonio's (UTSA) 2022-2023 submission to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS). This report serves as a testament to the remarkable strides we have taken in championing sustainability not only within our campus but also within our broader community.

At UTSA, sustainability is woven into the core of our institution. We support a sustainability culture that extends from our comprehensive Strategic Plan and 2019 Campus Master Plan to infusing diversity, wellness, and conservation into all facets of our university's governance.

On a day-to-day basis, UTSA actively supports sustainability programs and policies. From water re-use, recycling, and land management to the implementation of green business policies, staff recruitment, and wellness programs. We are a leading institution in sustainable curriculum dedicated to pushing the boundaries of sustainable research by establishing programs in historic preservation, cultural sustainability, and water research.

To further illustrate our pledge, UTSA has significantly expanded its commitment to sustainable construction and development by establishing a LEED Silver standard for new construction over 10 million. We have established key performance indicators in construction to assist the university in become a net zero campus by 2050. Further, we have increased renewable energy infrastructure, constructed low impact development facilities to treat stormwater runoff, and implemented many projects to optimize building performance through efficiency retrofits. These investments not only reduce our carbon footprint but resulted in our first LEED Gold building – San Pedro I – opened in January of 2023.

These accomplishments underscore UTSA's commitment to sustainability as an actionable reality. We are proud to contribute to a brighter, more sustainable future for our institution and

The University of Texas at San Antonio STARS Assessment Executive Letter

October 10, 2023

Page 2

the broader community we serve. Together, we are forging a path toward a greener, more resilient tomorrow.

With Appreciation,

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Dr. Taylor Eighmy

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President

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Lani May

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Director of Sustainability

