



Introduction

This sustainability research and scholarship inventory was developed for Colorado State University's STARS 2.1 submission following the STARS 2.1 Technical Manual criteria for this credit.

Methodology

For Part 1, the Vice President for Research Office utilized the campus-wide research database to calculate the total number of tenure and tenure-track faculty on campus who conduct research, are tenure or tenure-eligible Primary Investigators (PIs) or co-Primary Investigators (co-PIs) or key persons, and have externally funded research and then utilized a keyword search based on the STARS 2.1 definitions (outlined below) for sustainability research to identify the number of faculty engaged specifically in sustainability research. It is worth noting that our counts are likely lower than actual totals as the research database documents projects with external funding and in many cases there may be multiple other faculty members engaged in the research project that are not tenure or tenure-eligible and/or not listed in the database, or engage in non-externally funded sustainability research. We chose to apply this criteria for this report to be as accurate as possible with the available data.

For Part 2 of the credit, all departments with faculty identified in Part 1 as conducting research were calculated as well as the number of departments who have at least one faculty member engaged in sustainability research. It is worth noting that five departments (the five special academic units at CSU) do not conduct research but do teach courses so they were counted in IC3 but were not counted in this credit as this credit only tracks departments who conduct research. Therefore, our academic department counts are intentionally different in IC3 and this credit.

For the research inventory spreadsheet, the Vice President for Research Office inventoried the campus-wide research database by conducting a keyword search across the database to identify research projects and associated researchers per the STARS 2.1 Technical Manual (see definitions and keywords below).

The inventoried research projects were then entered into an Excel spreadsheet and reviewed by the CSU STARS Team and staff in the Vice President for Research Office to ensure that each listed project meets the criteria for this credit.

Our inventory spans several years as many research projects are long-term. The Vice President for Research Office applied a criteria to the search to ensure that only projects active in 2019, when the data was collected, are included even though the study or research projects itself may have started prior to 2019 and may extend beyond 2019.

Definitions

Sustainability research:

Sustainability research is research and scholarship that explicitly addresses the concept of sustainability, furthers our understanding of the interdependence of ecological and social/economic systems, or has a primary and explicit focus on a major sustainability challenge.

Sustainability challenges:

AASHE defines sustainability in a pluralistic and inclusive way, encompassing human and ecological health, social justice, secure livelihoods, and a better world for all generations. Major sustainability challenges include (but are not limited to) climate change, global poverty and inequality, natural resource depletion, and environmental degradation. To identify additional sustainability challenges, it may be helpful to reference the principles outlined in the Earth Charter and/or the targets embedded in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Keyword Search: List the VPR office uses to search the research database for sustainability research.

Like "*sustain*" Or Like "*sustainability*" Or Like "climate change*" Or Like "climate*" Or Like "global warming*" Or Like "global change*" Or Like "global poverty*" Or Like "global inequality*" Or Like "environmental degradation*" Or Like "natural resource depletion*" Or Like "renewable*" Or Like "environment*" Or Like "water*" Or Like "conservation*" Or Like "food security*" Or Like "planet*" Or Like "forest*" Or Like "tree*" Or Like "solar*" Or Like "weather*" Or Like "green*" Or Like "clean energy*" Or Like "LEED*" Or Like "ecosystem*" Or Like "air quality*" Or Like "clean air*" Or Like "wind*" Or Like "organic*" Or Like "alternative transportation*" Or Like "bioenergy*" Or Like "restoration*" Or Like "biofuel*" Or Like "photovoltaics*" Or Like "energy assessment*" Or Like "ecology*" Or Like "ecological health*" Or Like "conserving*" Or Like "pollution*" Or Like "habitat*" Or Like "emissions*" Or Like "greenhouse gas*" Or Like "carbon emissions*" Or Like "regeneration*" Or Like "river*" Or Like "stream*" Or Like "wetland*" Or Like "wildlife impacts*" Or Like "greywater*" Or Like "wild lands*" Or Like "native species*" Or Like "indigenous*" Or Like "regeneration*" Or Like "pollution*" Or Like "recycle*" Or Like "living wage*" Or Like "responsible production*" Or Like "aerosol*" Or Like "battery*" Or Like "cathode*" Or Like "anode*" Or Like "efficiency*" Or Like "lifetime*" Or Like "crop*" Or Like "pollutant*" Or Like "energy*" Or Like "biomass*" Or Like "waste*" Or Like "agriculture*" Or Like "yield*" Or Like "drought*" Or Like "adaptation*" Or Like "carbon sequestration*" Or Like "desalination*" Or Like "irrigation*" Or Like "insecticide*" Or Like "pesticide*" Or Like "herbicide*" Or Like "aquaculture*" Or Like "fishery*" Or Like "fisheries*" Or Like "perovskite*" Or Like "carbon*" Or Like "power*" Or Like "hydrologic*" Or Like "invasive*" Or Like "fuel cell*" Or Like "VOC*" Or Like "pest*" Or Like "bioenergy*" Or Like "endangered*" Or Like "hurricane*" Or Like "fire*" Or Like "bee*" Or Like "pollinator*" Or Like "pest*" Or Like "toxic*"