



Facilities/Construction Management  
Division of Administration  
& Finance

December 15, 2023

The Association of the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education  
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Re: University of Houston STARS Submission

University of Houston is proud to submit this, our fifth STARS performance report for the fiscal year ended August 2023.

Since our last STARS report in Spring 2022 (for FY2021), we have re-imagined and re-constituted our Campus Sustainability Committee. The Committee is organized around the STARS framework, with representatives from Academics (Office of the Provost, Division of Research, UH Energy, Faculty Senate), Engagement (Division of Student Affairs, Marketing/Communications, Athletics, Advancement), Operations (Facilities Services, Facilities Planning, Auxiliary Services) and Planning & Administration (Human Resources, Staff Council, Student Government Association). The Committee created a new mission statement: *To foster a culture of sustainability that guides scholarship and operations, advances social and environmental excellence and positions the University of Houston as a Top 50 public university.*

We are now seeing the first fruits of the change we made to our design guidelines in 2019 to require LEED Silver (or better) certification of new buildings and major renovation projects. In 2023 our new medical school received LEED Gold certification, as did the complete renovation of our second oldest building, Roy G. Cullen Memorial Building.

At the same time, our Facilities Services team has embraced new procedures, emphasizing Green Cleaning and Integrated Pest Management, and they are enhancing recycling metrics and participation across campus. Notably, our campus Dining partners achieved a groundbreaking milestone in 2023—the first four-star Green Restaurant Association rating for any university dining hall in Texas.

These and other recent achievements underscore our commitment to sustainability at the University of Houston. We continue to offer a minor in Energy and Sustainability through UH Energy and our Office of Sustainability provides outreach and engagement programming to inspire the next generation of professionals.

Sincerely,

David Oliver P.E; CFP  
Senior Associate Vice Chancellor/Associate Vice President  
Facilities/Construction Management  
University of Houston System/University of Houston