



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Ana Mari Cauce
Professor of Psychology
PRESIDENT

December 21, 2021

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
213 ½ N. Limestone
Lexington, KY 40507

Re: University of Washington STARS submission

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

The University of Washington is proud to submit our fourth Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Ratings System (STARS) report. We have once again achieved a Gold rating, affirming our deep commitment to being a leader in higher education sustainability.

Since our last STARS submission from 2018, the University of Washington has remained at the forefront of sustainability leadership despite the challenge of the global pandemic. Integrating sustainability into our teaching, research and operations remains core to our approach.

Our five-year Sustainability Action Plan was finalized in July 2020, setting out 10 measurable targets for our institution. These targets reinforce the UW's commitment to climate action and responsible stewardship while prioritizing equity and inclusion in achieving these goals. This Sustainability Action Plan has brought together stakeholders across the university in the planning and execution of our sustainability actions, improving coordination of our many efforts.

Our commitment to sustainability has spanned beyond our campuses over the past several years. The UW hosted a regional conference in 2019 that focused on the intersection of sustainability, diversity and inclusion, bringing together higher education institutions from across the states of Washington and Oregon. UW Intercollegiate Athletics also hosted the 2019 Pac-12 Sustainability Conference, providing a forum for athletics and campus sustainability offices to share and discuss best practices for promoting sustainable practices with sports facility operations and engaging student athletes in the sustainability movement. UW was a host for the Special Olympics USA Games which deeply incorporated sustainability into the event planning, empowering athletes and engaging fans.

The University of Washington is a leader in research on the effects of climate change and responses. The College of the Environment researchers address the impact of policy and human actions on the environment and the management of natural resources. Our Population Health Initiative focuses on the intersections of human health, environmental resilience and social and economic equity. The initiative connects faculty and researchers across disciplines to address persistent and emerging challenges in these areas. Many other departments, research centers and faculty members across all of our schools and colleges are studying and researching sustainability.

At the University of Washington, sustainability is in our nature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ana Mari Cauce". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ana Mari Cauce
President