



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 24, 2022

STARS Review Team,

I am pleased to submit this letter accompanying Auburn University's fourth comprehensive sustainability performance assessment using the Sustainability Tracking Assessment & Rating System (STARS). We affirm that this report is a fair and accurate representation of Auburn's sustainability related efforts.

This report was prepared by the Academic Sustainability Program and the Office of Sustainability with input and assistance from numerous individuals and units throughout the campus community. Our submission was reviewed by an independent third party for accuracy and thoroughness.

As a land-grant institution, Auburn exists to extend access to higher education, develop practical solutions to significant challenges, and foster economic development, through our teaching, research, and outreach. We understand that fulfilling our mission in the 21st century means embracing the principles, practices, and ethics of sustainability in everything we do.

This commitment is reflected in language found in our 2019-2024 university strategic plan: "Auburn's land-grant mission calls on us to improve the environmental, economic, societal, and individual (wellbeing) conditions of people in Alabama and beyond. We will leverage our commitment to these four pillars of sustainability to transform global challenges into drivers for innovation and transformation."

We are grateful for the opportunity that STARS gives us to measure our performance against our aspirations and commitments, and in comparison to our peers. STARS has proven invaluable in acknowledging our progress and identifying opportunities for progressive next steps.

We will use the results of this report to lay out a goal-based plan over the next ten years, collaborating with units across campus to set specific targets and create roadmaps for achievement, all in alignment with Auburn's institutional strategic plan.

Auburn University is proud to be part of the global movement in higher education to lead the way to a more sustainable future, and we appreciate the role that AASHE and STARS play in fostering our success.

Sincerely,

Jay Gogue
President