



Office of the President
University of Cincinnati
PO Box 210063
Cincinnati OH 45221-0063
Phone (513) 556-2201
Fax (513) 556-3010
Email president@uc.edu

March 6, 2014

Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, & Rating System Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
1536 Wynkoop Street, Suite 100
Denver, CO 80202

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

As the leader of the fine institution, I write to affirm, the University of Cincinnati's first Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS) submission is correct to the best of my knowledge. The information contained therein has been compiled by staff from University of Cincinnati's, Office of Sustainability and other employees who oversee each area of the report.

I am extremely proud of the achievements UC has made thus far in our journey toward a more sustainable campus. Our rich history of environmental engagement includes student-led initiatives to promote sustainable practices along with interdisciplinary educational experiences in a variety of sustainability related degree programs. More recently we have focused institutional investments in energy and water conservation and supported research initiatives spanning from studying new renewable fuel sources to identifying injustices in modern society.

Utilizing STARS reporting underscores our strengths and successes, while at the same time highlighting opportunities to increase our efforts. Sustainability is included in UC's Strategic Plan and Academic Master Plan as a core principle for the university, and STARS creates a consistent, transparent mechanism to track and report progress to our stakeholders.

As a public institution, we have a responsibility to those we serve to operate in an efficient, effective, and sustainable manor. As a major research university, we have a unique opportunity to make new discoveries that advance sustainability. We are finding ways to maximize the benefits of the work we do at the university, while minimizing any financial, environmental and societal costs. I am dedicated to the success of these efforts and to making sustainability an inherent part of everything we do at UC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Santa J. Ono'.

Santa J. Ono, PhD
President