



August 11, 2018

Meghan Fay Zahniser, Executive Director  
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education  
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Meghan:

The University of California, Berkeley has led the way in the global environmental and sustainability movement for more than a half-century. Whether it is groundbreaking research or forward-thinking social movements or on-campus environmental innovations, the world has turned to UC Berkeley for an example of the possible, and the imminent. That history, and the campus' enduring spirit of innovation, continue to shape how UC Berkeley serves generation after generation of students while striving to operate the most environmentally sustainable and socially equitable institution possible. We at UC Berkeley believe this proud heritage shines through in our first ever complete submission of the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System assessment. It is my honor to affirm that the enclosed information is accurate, up to date and thorough. I believe the picture these data and descriptions paint of our campus gives all of us at UC Berkeley reason to be proud of our achievements. At the same time, we're as excited as ever to build on this history and create an even more sustainable and equitable future for our campus and the world.

UC Berkeley's commitment to social and environmental responsibility is reflected across campus. It can be seen in our world-famous laboratories where researchers are pushing our understanding of how climate change is transforming the planet and developing the kinds of energy, environmental and social solutions that will make the difference in the decades to come. On top of that, the campus has set an ambitious goal to build sustainability into how those labs and other facilities operate, following the UC-wide target of total carbon neutrality by 2025. UC Berkeley has taken that charge to heart by infusing sustainable purchasing into campus operations. That includes serving third party-certified sustainably sourced meat, seafood and other foods in our dining halls and using furniture that produce minimal life-cycle environmental impact.

In the classroom, UC Berkeley has been consistently rated the top school in the world in environmental sciences, with a wide range of departments across campus, and not just the renowned College of Natural Resources, producing world-changing scholarship. Sustainability is part of the daily course of business at diverse academic departments such as law, anthropology, engineering and sociology. That core philosophy extends to the collaborations of UC Berkeley researchers with policy-makers and private enterprise around the world as well as to the on-the ground work our students, staff and faculty do every day to build a more just, sustainable society on campus and in the Bay Area.

A recent fine example of UC Berkeley's aspirations is its newest on-campus building - the Connie & Kevin Chou Hall at the Haas School of Business. This gleaming five-story structure is on track to becoming LEED platinum, WELL certified, and the first business school facility in the U.S. to contribute no waste to landfills. That achievement is the result not just of conscientious engineering but of the participation of the faculty, staff and students who use the building every day. It's also part of UC Berkeley's goal to recycle or divert all campus waste by 2020, again with the help of everyone who lives, works and studies on campus.

Throughout its history, UC Berkeley has stepped up to the challenges of the moment. Today, it is assuming its historic leadership position by taking on the enormous carbon and energy crisis facing the world today. This campus is committed to working with the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education to make our country's campuses examples of the change that the world must commit to. We believe this enclosed submission is excellent evidence of our commitment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Fisher', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Marc Fisher  
Vice Chancellor  
Administration