



October 30, 2019

AASHE
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

On behalf of Utah State University, it is my pleasure to present our third Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) report. Individuals in each reporting area across campus compiled the most accurate available information for USU sustainability initiatives and accomplishments.

Over the past three years, USU has continued its work on resource conservation. Water use in buildings and on the landscape have dropped over 50% from a 2007 baseline. The University constructed over 400,000 square feet of space that is LEED Certified, contributing to the university's goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

Utah State's faculty, staff, and students have also been pushing the university forward. The president appointed a Greenhouse Gas Steering Committee of faculty, staff, and students to identify measurable steps toward carbon neutrality. The committee will present their recommendations later this fall.

The Center for Community Engagement has led the way on addressing food waste and food insecurity simultaneously. Since the last STARS report, food recovery efforts have expanded to include hot food in the Campus Kitchen USU, four-season produce from the Utah Conservation Corps Urban Community, and seasonal produce from the USU Gleaning Team. The Gleaning Team has collected over 13,000 pounds of food this growing season alone, helping the Student Nutrition Access Center meet this year's record demand.

As it prepares graduates for the challenges of the 21st century, Utah State University remains committed to sustainability in its operations, academics and service missions. This STARS report is a snapshot of the campus on its path towards becoming more sustainable.

Sincerely,

Charles Darnell
Associate Vice President, Facilities