



Laura E. Skandera Trombley

PRESIDENT

January 14, 2022

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

RE: Southwestern University STARS 2.2 Submission

To Whom It May Concern,

As President of Southwestern University, I am pleased to endorse our sustainability self-assessment using the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System™ (STARS).

Founded in 1840 and located in scenic Georgetown, Southwestern University was the first institution of higher education in Texas. Today, we are a nationally ranked private liberal arts university that is home to 1,500 students and 110 faculty from across the United States and 14 other countries.

Take a stroll through the Southwestern campus, passing by its historic buildings and tree-filled landscape, one can almost pretend that nothing has changed since the school's founding over 175 years ago. However, evidence of the school's sustainability efforts is visible in every corner of campus, from the solar panels on Heather Hall to the water bottle refill stations, pirate bikes, single stream recycling, and much more. Our STARS report reflects the progress and accomplishments faculty, staff, and students have made to advance sustainability at Southwestern and across the greater Georgetown community.

Our notable sustainability achievements include:

- Purchasing renewable energy certificates (RECs) through the City of Georgetown to eliminate our market-based scope 2 emissions from purchased electricity.
- Supporting sustainability projects through the Sustainable Advancements Funding Endeavor (S.A.F.E.), a dedicated fund receiving \$30 per student annually.
- Maintaining our status as a Tree Campus Higher Education recognized institution, Bee Campus USA affiliate institution, Food Recovery Verified institution, and designation as a Voter-Friendly Campus.

Southwestern may be Texas's oldest University, but its commitment to sustainability is very progressive. These ongoing sustainability efforts ensure that Southwestern University will be around well into the future.

Southwestern University is proud to take part in the AASHE STARS program, and we look forward to continued involvement in the program. Thank you for your continuing development of STARS and the opportunity to showcase our contributions toward the well-being of humanity.

Sincerely,

Laura Skandera Trombley
President