



GARY S. MAY
Chancellor

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
ONE SHIELDS AVENUE
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616-8558
TELEPHONE: (530) 752-2065

June 2, 2023

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

Dear Executive Director Zahniser:

On behalf of the University of California, Davis, I am pleased to submit our documentation for AASHE's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS), version 2.2. Our submission represents an accurate account of our sustainability activities and initiatives to the best of our knowledge and ability.

Our campus embraces the call to rise and use our resources to solve major and urgent sustainability challenges that our world faces – environmental, social and economic challenges. Since our last STARS submission, UC Davis is continuing to sustain a healthy and resilient community, measure progress on and promote a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all, coordinate on sustainability work, reduce reliance on fossil fuels, and prepare for an all-electric future.

- We launched [Healthy Davis Together](#), a campus-city collaboration intended to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and facilitate a safe and gradual return to regular activities. The project initiated COVID-19 testing sites, contact tracing and vaccine clinics, and a range of other activities to fight the pandemic. UC Davis was honored by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) with the Response to a Community in Crisis Award.
- We completed a campus-wide [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDG\) Voluntary University Review](#) in an effort to begin measuring UC Davis progress on addressing SDGs and spread awareness about the 17 goals. The report was spearheaded by the UC Davis [Global Affairs](#), [Sustainability](#), and [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion](#) offices. The three offices and UC Davis [Grand Challenges](#) coordinate to offer [Grants for Advancing SDGs](#), which promotes multidisciplinary collaborations between faculty in order to advance one or more of the SDGs.
- The [Campus Advisory Committee on Sustainability](#), which advises on sustainable advancements for UC Davis was charged to [prepare a plan to end fossil fuel use](#) on both the UC Davis and UC Davis Health campuses.
- [The Big Shift](#) began in spring 2020 and completed the first and largest phase of the project by the start of 2023. The main goal of the large-scale construction project is to replace our heating system that uses steam made by using natural gas with a hot water system generated by electricity in order to reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

Meghan Fay Zahniser

June 2, 2023

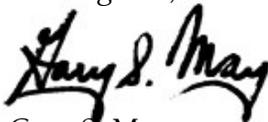
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- Zero-emission buses hit the road on both the UC Davis and UC Davis Health campuses. The [Causeway Connection](#) is an all-electric bus service that runs between Davis and Sacramento helping to reduce regional emissions and traffic along the I-80 Causeway. [Unitrans](#), a student-run bus system servicing UC Davis and the City of Davis, recently added [six all-electric buses to its fleet](#) and has eight more planned to arrive in the next year.

The University of California has a [Sustainable Practices Policy](#) with ambitious goals. These goals inform and guide our work, and the STARS reporting system helps broaden our campus's understanding of the comprehensive, interconnected nature of sustainability.

UC Davis appreciates the work of AASHE to create, evolve, and improve the STARS reporting system. We are pleased to participate in this effort to provide clear, transparent metrics of our progress. We take pride in our accomplishments to-date and know that we still have more work to do. We will use the results from this assessment to continue to advance sustainability efforts through our teaching, research, public engagement and operations.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary S. May". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "G" and "M".

Gary S. May
Chancellor