



Cal Poly
Humboldt.

Office of the President

April 10, 2023

STARS Administrator
AASHE
P.O. Box 824583
Philadelphia, PA 19182-4583

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter serves to introduce and affirm Cal Poly Humboldt's achievement regarding our 2023 STARS submission and rating. Since we last submitted, we have entered a significant period of growth and change at our campus through the process of becoming the third formally recognized Polytechnic Institution in the California State University system. This moment ushers in a new era at our campus, not only by way of refining our brand identity but also by providing the opportunity to leverage an expanded vision for continued improvement in sustainability. Specifically, at the time of our submission, our commitment to training internationally renowned experts who have experience and practice crafting critical solutions to the world's sustainability problems remains at the forefront of our purpose as a campus. We continue to shoulder an immense responsibility to leverage our social, intellectual, and economic capital to provide resilient and adaptive solutions in such a changing world.

As such, I am pleased to point out that with this current STARS report, we have again achieved a Gold rating. We demonstrated success by improving our rating from roughly 72% in 2020 to 76% in this reporting cycle, which interestingly, is an increase roughly parallel to the rate of improvement we demonstrated between 2017 and 2020 of around 4%. In our current report, readers will note that we have made significant progress in providing professional development opportunities to our faculty with the hope that they will continue to incorporate sustainability robustly into courses (see AC 7 Incentives for Developing Courses), supporting sustainability research (see AC 9 Support for Sustainability Research), documenting and analyzing Grounds & Landscape Management practices (see OP 9 Landscape Management & OP 10 Biodiversity), developing a broader team of employees educating their peers on sustainability (see EN 7 Employee Educators Program), and "greening" our investment portfolio (see PA 10 Sustainable Investment). We are also proud to acknowledge that this is our first STARS report in which data regarding sustainable food expenditures is made visible (see OP 7 Food & Beverage Expenditures). We acknowledge that the results of this report show that we have the most room for improvement throughout the Operations (OP) section, even though we are demonstrating a roughly 6% improvement throughout Operations as a whole since our last report. We look forward to continuing to make strides in these areas in the future.

As in prior years, we have pride that our campus remains a frontrunner and exemplary campus for teaching, learning, practicing, and living sustainability and look forward to zeroing in on the opportunities for improvement in the coming three years.

Sincerely,

Tom Jackson, Jr., Ed.D.
President, Cal Poly Humboldt

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