

Executive Cover Letter
STARS Report Submission, September 15, 2023

Dear AASHE STARS,

On January 16, 2023, Creighton University hired its first fulltime sustainability project and reporting coordinator. This coordinator works in the Office of Sustainability Programs under the direction of the director of sustainability, a position that was elevated from the coordinator level in 2020, to facilitate regular reporting, including to STARS. The work of the Office is informed by the Sustainability Governance Committee, which includes senior administrative officials from across campus divisions, including Student Life, Facilities Management, University Marketing & Communications, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, Enrollment Management, Global Engagement, Mission & Ministry, and faculty and staff. The Office of Sustainability Programs is part of the Global Engagement Office and serves as a hub for collaboration among students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, local neighbors, and global partners to promote sustainability literacy, taking action, and climate advocacy. The University theme for this academic year is “Uniting in the Care of Our Common Home” and serves to promote Creighton’s vision for sustainability as stewards of earth and creation, our common home.

Creighton has faithfully tracked our greenhouse gas emissions and sustainability performance since 2010 and have submitted STARS Snapshots in the past. This will be our second submission of a STARS report for rating, receiving a Bronze level in 2018. Our sustainability reporting coordinator worked closely with a variety of staff members from Academic & Institutional Research, Environmental Health & Safety, Finance, Facilities Management, and Global Engagement to give the most comprehensive view of campus sustainability to date. The coordinator followed previously established methods and attended a variety of AASHE webinars in preparation for this report, including updates in the STARS 2.2 reporting scheme. In addition, the data was reviewed by the director of sustainability and co-chair of the Sustainability Governance Committee to ensure accuracy across all credits.

Based on the rigor of this report, including the hiring of a dedicated staff person to acquire accurate data from multiple stakeholders, the Sustainability Governance Committee co-chairs verify that Creighton University’s STARS report submission is as accurate as feasibly possible.

Regards,



René Padilla
Vice Provost, Global Engagement
Co-Chair, Sustainability Governance Committee



Andrew Baruth
Director, Office of Sustainability Programs
Co-Chair, Sustainability Governance Committee

Sustainability Governance Committee:

Tanya Winegard – Vice Provost for Student Life
John Jesse III – University Treasurer
Derek Scott – AVP for Facilities Management
Sarah Richardson – AVP for Enrollment Management

Richard Davis – Director of Internal Communications
Dan DiLeo – Association Professor, Mission liaison
Stacey Rafferty – Senior EDI Training Specialist
Becky Crowell – Administrative Support