



FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

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April 13, 2018

United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability
(UNU-IAS) Global Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) Service Centre
5-53-70 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku
Tokyo 150-8925 JAPAN

Dear UNU-IAS RCE Selection Committee:

The University of Texas at Dallas is pleased to support and participate in the North Texas region's application to become a recognized Regional Center of Expertise in Education for Sustainable Development as designated by the United Nations University's Institute for Advanced Studies in Sustainability.

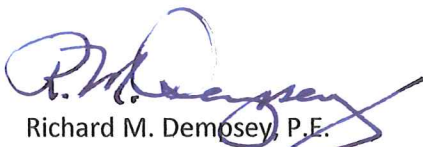
The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) strives to be a leader in the field of sustainability by minimizing the environmental footprint of our campus while building a culture of sustainability on our campus and beyond. We believe that the role of our university is to model sustainable practices, to educate students that will affect a positive change, and to inspire leaders to take actions that make the world a better place.

- UTD is building a culture of sustainability through a standing Sustainability Committee comprised of students, faculty, and staff which allows the university's sustainability efforts to match the wishes of its community while complementing the efforts of the Office of Sustainability.
- Students lead the way through the efforts of the Student Government's Green Initiative Committee which provides funding to student projects that improve stewardship, through volunteerism with the UTD Sustainability Club, and through peer to peer education from the UTD Eco Reps.
- Earth Week, celebrated each April with events and activities, garners participation and engagement from students, faculty, staff, and community members and highlights the passion for the environment and the diverse talents in our community.
- UTD integrates sustainability in the built environment with six (6) LEED certified buildings, a net zero parking garage, and plans to seek LEED certification for two (2) buildings in design and construction.
- UTD is addressing UN and EPA food waste reduction goals by composting pre-consumer food waste from dining locations and collaborating with the Food Recovery Network to donate leftover food to feed insecure communities.
- UTD provides a sustainable habitat conducive for student learning and a thriving ecosystem. Service learning has contributed greatly to UTD's Tree Campus USA certification, Monarch Waystations, and Blackland Prairie Restoration.

- UTD is minimizing its carbon footprint through solar installations on campus by utilizing reflective roofing, through energy efficiency retrofits, and by promoting a green commute by providing free electric vehicle charging stations.

As Application Coordination Committee members, we believe institutions at the local level are best suited to address the challenges of sustainable development; therefore, we support the priority goals of Health and Well-Being, Quality Education and Sustainable Cities and Communities for the North Texas RCE as a starting point for our region. These and the other Sustainable Development Goals are aligned with our values as an organization, so we very much look forward to participating in this collaboration, upon official recognition by the Ubuntu Committee.

Sincerely,



Richard M. Demosey, P.E.
Associate Vice President
for Facilities Management
University of Texas at Dallas
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