



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RICHARD C. BENSON

September 9, 2019

The Association for the Advancement of
Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)
2401 Walnut Street Suite 102
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

RE: The University of Texas at Dallas 2019 AASHE STARS Submission

Dear AASHE Staff,

I am pleased to inform you that The University of Texas at Dallas will be submitting its second Sustainability Tracking Assessment & Rating System (STARS) Report, and we are thrilled to be upgrading our rating from Bronze to Gold.

UT Dallas has built upon the foundation for sustainability that was documented in the 2016 STARS Report by working to further integrate sustainability into the very culture of the University. Since then, UT Dallas has adopted a new Strategic Plan that specifically identifies sustainability as one of six goals for the University and as one of its nine strategic themes.

UT Dallas has also completed an update to its Campus Master Plan, which focuses heavily on sustainability and calls for a Sustainability Master Plan.

The Office of Sustainability has worked in support of the University's commitment to sustainability by adopting a Mission Statement that widens the scope of our efforts beyond its roots in operations to also advance sustainability in academics, engagement, and administration. Many UT Dallas students, faculty, and staff have participated in the sustainability efforts contained in this report, and we are proud of the culture of sustainability that is being built at the University.

UT Dallas appreciates the work done by AASHE in providing this opportunity to track our sustainability initiatives through the STARS Report, the international standard for universities that has become the foundation for our own sustainability program. We look forward to expanded participation and progress in our sustainability efforts on campus and beyond.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Benson
President
Eugene McDermott Distinguished University Chair of Leadership

RCB/cg