

Learning with Purpose

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Jacqueline F. Moloney Chancellor

## OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

August 10, 2016

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee,

On behalf of the University of Massachusetts Lowell (UMass Lowell), we are proud to present our second submission to AASHE's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). Utilizing a solid base from our first STARS submission in 2015, this **Gold** rating reflects a considerable commitment to sustainability that permeates campus life at UMass Lowell.

While the core mission of UMass Lowell has remained the same since the 1890s – educate, research, serve the community – the University today bears little resemblance to its early predecessor institutions. In fact, the campus is very different than even five years ago, as enrollment soars, academic programs are added, buildings are constructed and a global flavor takes hold. Central to this period of growth has been a clear and distinct focus on sustainability which is embedded in our 2020 Strategic Plan.

Our world-class University now serves as living lab for sustainability issues where our students learn about sustainability and climate change inside and outside of the classroom. In addition, industry leading sustainability, climate neutrality, and clean energy research continues to grow through our various research centers which focus on discovery, education, and policy, all to help advance new technologies and critical decision-making. This comprehensive STARS submission represents a diligent and forthright compilation of data from these respective efforts.

We are extremely proud of this **Gold** rating as it is a true reflection of UMass Lowell's role as a leader in sustainability. The entire university community looks forward to continually advancing our sustainability efforts in line with the upward trajectory of our institution.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline F. Moloney

Chancellor

Joanne Yestramski,

Vice Chancellor, Finance and Operation