

Leas-Uachtarán agus Cláráitheoir
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Dear AASHE Steering Committee members,

University College Cork is delighted to make this, our first, submission to the AASHE STARS Accreditation programme. All of the data has been gathered in good faith and represents many months of work on the part of UCC's Green Forum members, and the many offices throughout UCC that have assisted by contributing information.

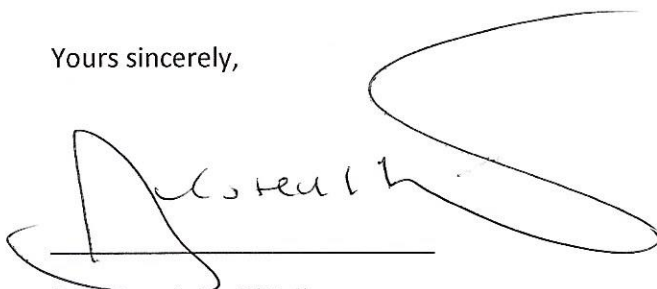
UCC view this submission as the most comprehensive assessment of sustainability by an Irish University to date, and the breadth of coverage of data and indicators represents the commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals across all divisions of our university.

Our STARS submission comes a decade after the establishment of the Green Campus Committee in University College Cork and the birth of the international Green Campus programme. The success of that programme is evident throughout this submission, particularly in its requirement to engage the entire campus community in improving our operational impact. Also evident are the many coincident activities of our campus community, for example in the areas of research, community outreach and equality.

We are extremely proud of our achievements to date, many of which are based on the excellent relationships that we have with our many stakeholders. The "Farm to Fork" initiative is an example of how we work with our onsite catering contractors to make our operations more sustainable. The "Love our Library" campaign demonstrates the commitment of our staff, students and cleaning services to drive change for the better. We are also motivated by our shortcomings in this assessment; these will drive our action plans over the coming years. In particular, UCC have already embarked on a programme to develop a new university Academic Strategy which will feature, at its core, the Sustainable Development Goals.

We look forward to receiving the feedback from the STARS review process and continuing our journey to make our campus, and world, a more sustainable place.

Yours sincerely,



Professor John O'Halloran