

February 19, 2021

Dear Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) Administrators,

It is with great pride that I submit the Cal State Monterey Bay STARS Report. This report is a reflection of the sustainability accomplishments and ambitions of our campus community. It is also an example of the great teamwork by the staff, students, and faculty that worked diligently to gather and analyze all of the data.

This year, we continued the student connection by hiring students to support the collection of data. This allowed the process of collecting the STARS information to not only serve as a valuable tool for tracking key indicators of sustainability but also allowed a student to gain valuable professional development skills. Student success is our ultimate goal as a University and we are proud to offer students unique opportunities for co-curricular learning.

Since last year, when this report was previously submitted, our world and our campus has navigated great challenges. Much of the data reflected in this report is from the 2019-20 Academic year and therefore, only slightly impacted by COVID-19. CSUMB made the early decision to shift towards remote learning and work early. We are proud of the dedication shown by staff, faculty and students to look for unique opportunities to advance sustainability within this new environment.

When comparing this report to the previous reports, there are several areas that have shown consistent improvement, including: campus engagement, public engagement, energy, food, and dining. We were especially pleased to open a new LEED Platinum building. Opportunities for improved performance, exist in the areas of building operation and maintenance, habitat, waste reduction, and sustainable commute options. The responsibility of sustainability on our campus rests in the hands of every student, faculty and staff and requires bold leadership from our campus administrators.

Thank you for your continued support of campus sustainability efforts. We are proud to be members of AASHE and participate in the STARS process.

Sincerely,



Eduardo Ochoa,
President, California State University Monterey Bay

cc

Kevin Saunders, VP Administration and Finance
Co-Chair President's Sustainability Committee

Brian Corpening, AVP Inclusive Excellence
Co-Chair President's Sustainability Committee

Lacey Raak, Sustainability Director