

Campus Sustainability Task Force
Status Report
Sustainability Tracking Assessment
Rating System (STARS)
February 19, 2010



STARS Overview

What is STARS?

- Voluntary
- Framework for understanding sustainability
- Comparisons over time and across institutions
- Incentives
- Information sharing
- Building a stronger sustainability community



STARS Rating Policy

9 CATEGORIES-

- Administration
- Climate Change and Energy
- Food and Recycling
- Green Building
- Student Involvement
- Transportation
- Endowment Transparency
- Investment Priority Share holder Engagement.

Rating Level:

STARS Bronze 25

STARS Silver 45

STARS Gold 65

STARS Platinum 85

STARS Reporter



Co-Curricular Education

- Sustainability learning experiences outside the formal curriculum
- Institution sponsored Co-curricular activities

Environmental student group
Campus community garden
Recycle - Mania
UH- green day
Commuter fair



UH Co-Curricular Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
ER Credit 1	Student Sustainability Educators Program	5	5
ER Credit 2	Student Sustainability Outreach Program	5	5
ER Credit 3	Sustainability in New student Orientation	2	2
ER Credit 4	Sustainability Outreach and Publication	4	4
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Co-curriculum education Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Student Group	0.25	.25
2	Organic Garden	0.25	.25
3	Model Dorm Room	0.25	0
4	Emerging Goal - Themed Housing	0.25	
5	Sustainable Enterprise	0.25	0
6	Sustainability Events	0.25	.25
7	Outdoor Programs	0.25	.25
8	Themed Semester of the Year	0.25	0
TOTAL		18	17.00

STARS Co-Curricular Score = 94.44%



Curriculum

- Training and educating future leaders about sustainability challenges
- Recognizes institutions with formal education programs and courses that address sustainability



UH Curriculum Benchmarks

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
ER Credit 5	Emerging Goal - Sustainability Course Identification	3	3
ER Credit 6	Emerging Goal - Sustainability-Focused Courses	10	2.361
ER Credit 7	Emerging Goal -Sustainability-Related Courses	10	0.464
ER Credit 8	Sustainability Courses by Department	7	
ER Credit 9	Sustainability Learning Outcomes	10	
ER Credit 10	Undergraduate Program in Sustainability	4	4
ER Credit 11	Graduate Program in Sustainability	4	4
ER Credit 12	Sustainability Immersive Experience	2	
ER Credit 13	Sustainability Literacy Assessment	2	
ER Credit 14	Incentives for Developing Sustainability Courses	3	
TOTAL		55	13.825

STARS Curriculum Score = 25.14%



Research

- ❖ Conducting research related to or focused on sustainability.
- ❖ Refining theories and concepts to help the world understand sustainability challenges and develop new technologies, strategies, and approaches to address those challenges.



UH Research Benchmarks

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
ER Credit 15	Emerging Goal - Sustainability Research Identification	3	
ER Credit 16	Emerging Goal - Faculty Involved in Sustainability Research	10	
ER Credit 17	Departments Involved in Sustainability Research	6	
ER Credit 18	Sustainability Research Incentives	6	
ER Credit 19	Interdisciplinary Research in Tenure and Promotion	2	
TOTAL		27	

STARS Research Score = 0%



Buildings

- Recognizes taking steps to improve the sustainability performance of their buildings.
- Maintaining Indoor / Outdoor Air Quality
- Quick Facts:
Buildings = largest user of energy & largest source of greenhouse gas emissions on campuses.



UH Buildings Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
OP Credit 1	Emerging Goal - Building Operations and Maintenance	7	0.205
OP Credit 2	Emerging Goal - Building Design and Construction	4	0.12
OP Credit 3	Indoor Air Quality	2	2
TOTAL		13	2.205

STARS Building Score = 17.88%



Climate

- Recognizes measurements and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- Global warming includes increased frequency and potency =
 1. sea level rise
 2. species extinction
 3. water shortages
 4. declining agricultural production
 5. spread of diseases
 6. extreme weather events



UH Climate Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
OP Credit 5	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory	2	2
OP Credit 6	Emerging Goal - Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction	14	
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Climate Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Emerging Goal - Air Travel Emissions	0.25	
2	Local Offsets Program	0.25	0
TOTAL		16.50	2

STARS Climate Score =12.12 %



Dining Services

- Recognizes building a sustainable food system
- Definition of Sustainable food: The produce is bought within 250 miles of the University.
- Quick Facts:
Long-distance transportation of food = greenhouse gas emissions and other pollution
- Dining Services=important role in conserving energy and water, reducing waste, and purchasing environmentally preferable materials
- STARS measures these impacts across the institution; capturing benefits in the Energy, Water, Waste and Purchasing subcategories



UH Dining Services Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
OP Credit 6	Food Purchasing	6	0.24
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Dining Services Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Trayless Dining	0.25	.25
2	Vegetarian and Vegan Dining	0.25	.25
3	Trans-Fats	0.25	.25
4	Guidelines for Franchisees	0.25	.25
5	Pre-Consumer Food Waste Composting	0.25	.25
6	Post-Consumer Food Waste Composting	0.25	.25
7	Food Donation	0.25	0
8	Recycled Content Napkins	0.25	.25
9	Reusable Mug Discounts	0.25	.25
10	Reusable To-Go Containers	0.25	.25
TOTAL		8.50	2.49

STARS Dining Services Score = 29.29%



Energy

- Reduce energy consumption
- Cleaner and renewable sources of energy
i.e. solar, wind, geothermal, and low-impact hydropower
- Quick Facts:
 - Energy consumption is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions, which cause global warming
 - Energy consumption for 2008-2009 was 194MKWh/yr = Energy for 19,000 homes/yr
 - Cost: \$15million/yr
 - Switching off all the computers and laptops can possibly save up to \$250,000/yr



UH Energy Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
OP Credit 7	Building Energy Consumption	8	8
OP Credit 8	Clean and Renewable Energy	7	0.0003
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Energy Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Timers for Temperature Control	0.25	.25
2	Lighting Sensors	0.25	.25
3	LED Lighting	0.25	.25
4	Emerging Goal - Vending Machine Sensors	0.25	
5	Energy Management System	0.25	.25
6	Energy Metering	0.25	.25
TOTAL		16.50	8.2503

STARS Energy Score = 56.06%



Grounds

- Recognizes institutions that plan and maintain their grounds with sustainability in mind.

- Minimizing the use of:
 - toxic chemicals
 - protecting wildlife habitat
 - conserving water and resources



UH Ground Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
OP Credit 9	Integrated Pest Management	2	0
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Grounds Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Native Plants	0.25	.25
2	Wildlife Habitat	0.25	.25
3	Tree Campus USA	0.25	0
4	Snow and Ice Removal	0.25	0
5	Compost	0.25	.25
TOTAL		3.25	0.75

STARS Ground Score =23.07 %



Purchasing

- Recognizes institutions that are using their purchasing power to help build a sustainable economy.
- Purchasing decision = opportunity for institutions to choose environmentally and socially preferable products, services and support companies with strong commitments to sustainability.



UH Purchasing Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
OP Credit 10	Computer Purchasing	2	0
OP Credit 11	Cleaning Products Purchasing	2	0
OP Credit 12	Office Paper Purchasing – Emerging Goal	2	
OP Credit 13	Vendor Code of Conduct	1	0
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Purchasing Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Historically Underutilized Businesses	0.25	.25
2	Local Businesses	0.25	.25
TOTAL		7.50	.5

STARS Purchasing Score =6.67 %



Transportation

- Recognize institutions that are moving towards sustainable transport systems
- Transportation = major source of greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants
- Institutions may realize cost savings and help support local economies by reducing their dependency on petroleum based fuels for transportation.
- Quick Fact:
1 gallon of fuel burned by a vehicle releases 19 pounds of CO₂ in the atmosphere



UH Transportation Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
OP Credit 14	Campus Fleet	2	0.35
OP Credit 15	Student Commute Modal Split	4	0.612
OP Credit 16	Employee Commute Modal Split	3	0.41
Tier Two	<i>Transportation Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Bicycle Sharing	0.25	0
2	Facilities for Bicyclists	0.25	0
3	Bicycle Plan	0.25	0
4	Mass Transit	0.25	.25
5	Condensed Work Week	0.25	0
6	Telecommuting	0.25	0
7	Emerging Goal - Carpool Matching	0.25	
8	Cash-out of Parking	0.25	0
9	Carpool Discount	0.25	.25
10	Local Housing	0.25	0
11	Emerging Goal - Prohibiting Idling	0.25	
12	Emerging Goal - Car Sharing	0.25	.
TOTAL		12	1.872

STARS Transportation Score =15.60 %



Waste Reduction

➤ Recognizes institutions that are moving toward zero waste by reducing, reusing, recycling, and composting.

➤ Quick Fact:

- Cost of disposing the garbage in the landfill = \$50,000/yr
- 2008-2009 waste diversion was 26%
- Recycle Mania 2009 waste diversion was 33%



UH Waste Reduction Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
OP Credit 17	Waste Reduction	5	0
OP Credit 18	Waste Diversion	3	0.715
OP Credit 19	Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion	1	0.211
OP Credit 20	Electronic Waste Recycling Program	1	0.5
OP Credit 21	Hazardous Waste Management	1	1
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Waste Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Materials Exchange	0.25	.25
2	Limiting Printing	0.25	.25
3	Materials Online	0.25	.25
4	Chemical Reuse Inventory	0.25	.25
5	Move-In Waste Reduction- Emerging goal	0.25	
6	Move-Out Waste Reduction- Emerging goal	0.25	
TOTAL		12.50	3.426

STARS Waste Score = 27.41%



UH Water Definition

- Recognizes institutions conserving water and protecting water quality
- Reduce energy consumption and the greenhouse gas emissions associated with energy generation by conserving water.
- Quick Fact:
Water consumption in 2008-2009 was 358Mgallons which is 17% less than 2004-2005



UH Water Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
OP Credit 22	Water Consumption	7	4.76
OP Credit 23	Storm water Management	2	2
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Water Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Waterless Urinals	0.25	.25
2	Building Water Metering	0.25	.25
3	Non-Potable Water Usage	0.25	.25
4	Xeriscaping	0.25	0
5	Weather-Informed Irrigation	0.25	.25
TOTAL		10.25	7.76

STARS Water Score = 75.7%



Co-ordination and Planning

- Dedicate resources to sustainability coordination, incorporating sustainability into their primary campus plans, and developing plans to move towards sustainability.
- Staff and other resources help an institution organize, implement, and publicize sustainability initiatives.
- These resources provide the infrastructure that fosters sustainability within an institution.
- These important documents establish an institution's priorities and influence budgeting and decision making.
- Sustainability plans and climate plans provide a road map for how to achieve sustainability goals.



UH Co-ordination and Planning Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
PAE Credit 1	Sustainability Coordination	3	3
PAE Credit 2	Strategic Plan	6	6
PAE Credit 3	Physical Campus Plan	4	4
PAE Credit 4	Sustainability Plan	3	3
PAE Credit 5	Emerging Goal - Climate Plan	2	
TOTAL		18	16

STARS Score = 88.89 %



Diversity and Affordability

- Recognize institutions that are working to advance diversity and affordability on campus.
- People of color and low-income communities tend to suffer disproportionate exposure to environmental problems.
- Higher education opens doors to opportunities that can help create a more equitable world.
- In addition, a diverse student body, faculty, and staff provide rich resources for learning and collaboration.



UH Diversity and Affordability Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
PAE Credit 6	Diversity and Equity Coordination	2	2
PAE Credit 7	Measuring Campus Diversity Culture	2	2
PAE Credit 8	Support Programs for Under-Represented Groups	2	2
PAE Credit 9	Support Programs for Future Faculty	4	4
PAE Credit 10	Affordability and Access Programs	3	0
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Diversity and Affordability Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Gender Neutral Housing	0.25	0
2	Employee Training Opportunities	0.25	.25
3	Student Training Opportunities	0.25	.25
TOTAL		13.75	10.50

STARS Score =76.36 %



Human Resources

- Recognize institutions that have incorporated sustainability into their human resources programs and policies.
- Investment in human resources is integral to the achievement of a healthy and sustainable balance between human capital, natural capital, and financial capital.
- In addition, this subcategory recognizes faculty and staff training and development programs in sustainability.
- Equipping faculty and staff with the tools, knowledge, and motivation to adopt behavior changes that promote sustainability is an essential activity of a sustainable campus.



UH Human Resources Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
PAE Credit 11	Sustainable Compensation	8	8
PAE Credit 12	Employee Satisfaction Evaluation	2	2
PAE Credit 13	Staff Professional Development in Sustainability- Emerging Goal	2	
PAE Credit 14	Sustainability in New Employee Orientation	2	2
PAE Credit 15	Employee Sustainability Educators Program- Emerging Goal	5	
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Human Resources Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Childcare	0.25	.25
2	Employee Wellness Program	0.25	.25
3	Socially Responsible Retirement Plan	0.25	0
TOTAL		19.75	12.50

STARS Score =63.29 %



Investment

- Recognize institutions that make investment decisions that promote sustainability
- Schools with transparent and democratic investment processes promote accountability and engagement by the campus and community
- Investing in these companies also supports the development of sustainable products and services



UH Investment Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
PAE Credit 16	Committee on Socially Responsible Investment	2	2
PAE Credit 17	Shareholder Advocacy	5	0
PAE Credit 18	Positive Sustainability Investments	9	0
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Investment Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Student-Managed SRI Fund	0.25	0
2	Socially Responsible Investment Policy	0.25	0.25
3	Investment Disclosure	0.25	0.25
TOTAL		16.75	2.5

STARS Score = 14.93%



Public Engagement

- This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that give back to their communities through community service, engagement, and partnerships.
- Community engagement can help students develop leadership skills while deepening their understandings of practical, real-world problems.
- For example, faculty research and courses can focus on how to address community problems.



UH Public Engagement Benchmark

Credit number	Credit Title	STARS possible points	UH Actual points
PAE Credit 19	Community Sustainability Partnerships	2	2
PAE Credit 20	Inter-Campus Collaboration on Sustainability	2	2
PAE Credit 21	Emerging Goal - Sustainability in Continuing Education	7	
PAE Credit 22	Emerging Goal - Community Service Participation	6	
PAE Credit 23	Emerging Goal - Community Service Hours	6	
PAE Credit 24	Sustainability Policy Advocacy	4	0
PAE Credit 25	Trademark Licensing	4	2
<i>Tier Two</i>	<i>Public Engagement Tier Two Credits</i>		
1	Emerging Goal - Graduation Pledge	0.25	
2	Community Service on Transcripts	0.25	0
3	Farmers' Markets	0.25	0.25
TOTAL		31.75	6.25

STARS Score =19.69%



Current UH STARS Score=36.55%
Current STARS Ranking Would Be:
Bronze





THANK YOU