

# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR  
TEL: (858) 534-3135  
FAX: (858) 534-4523

9500 GILMAN DRIVE # 0005  
LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA 92093-0005

February 28, 2018

STARS Steering Committee  
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear STARS Steering Committee,

On behalf of the University of California, San Diego I am proud to submit our updated Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) report.

UC San Diego was the first institution of higher education in California to receive a STARS Gold rating in 2013, and we have continued to build on that success. Every day our faculty, students, and staff study and put into practice solutions that are helping to address global challenges as diverse as climate change, food adequacy, disease prevention, and ocean resource conservation.

Our updated STARS report reflects not only our leadership globally in teaching and research on issues like climate change, but also our commitment to being a model living laboratory of sustainability. In 2017 UC San Diego was the very first university winner of the North American Laboratory Freezer Challenge. We also received recognition for our sustainability efforts from organizations ranging from the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) to the Intelligent Building Conference, San Diego Gas & Electric, Nature magazine, the San Diego Association of Governments, and the San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition.

Highlights of our many sustainability initiatives include:

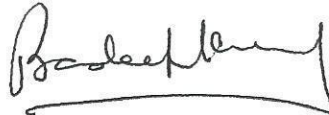
- An innovative Master's Degree program in Climate Science and Policy and an online course called "Bending the Curve on Climate Change" taught by one of the world's top researchers in climate science, UC San Diego's Dr. Veerabhadran Ramanathan. Owing to the success of this course it will now be offered to all University of California students by fall 2018.
- Over 30 student organizations focused on sustainability, with interests ranging from student-run gardens and social justice to an off-grid solar charging station for students to power their electronic devices.
- LEED certification of over 30 buildings, including four that are LEED Platinum.
- Completion of over \$100 million in energy efficiency projects, helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while saving more than \$8 million in annual energy costs.
- A highly innovative micro-grid that includes a renewable energy fuel cell and an integrated advanced energy storage system.
- Over 3 megawatts of solar photovoltaic generating capacity installed on the campus as well as at several off campus locations, with more planned.

- The largest university electric vehicle (EV) charging system in the country, with 130 chargers already installed. More than 350 members of the campus community have taken advantage of special EV leasing and sales offers to help reduce the cost of EVs.
- Conversion of the University's fleet to over 60% alternative fuel vehicles, including hybrid, EV, renewable compressed natural gas and renewable diesel.
- Certification of all Housing, Dining and Hospitality restaurants and markets under the "Responsible Epicurean and Agricultural Leadership" (REAL) program, a nationally-recognized mark of excellence in holistic nutrition and environmental stewardship. Over 20% of our foodservice spend is on sustainably-certified products, exceeding the 2020 UC system-wide sustainable food spend goal.

Sustainability is about seeing problems in new ways and creating innovative solutions that benefit all of us. Perhaps that is why UC San Diego is so good at it: Tritons are courageous, curious and driven. We take risks, push the frontiers of knowledge, and challenge conventional thinking.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our accomplishments and, through the lens of STARS, see where we can go next.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pradeep K. Khosla", written over a horizontal line.

Pradeep K. Khosla  
Chancellor  
UC San Diego