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About AASHE

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) membership organization that empowers higher education faculty, administrators, staff and students to be effective change agents and drivers of sustainability innovation.

AASHE enables its nearly 1,000 members to translate information into action by offering essential resources and professional development to a diverse, engaged community of sustainability leaders. We work with and for higher education to ensure that our world's future leaders are motivated and equipped to solve sustainability challenges.

AASHE defines sustainability in an inclusive way, encompassing human and ecological health, social justice, secure livelihoods, and a better world for all generations.

Our Mission

To inspire and catalyze higher education to lead the global sustainability transformation.

Our Vision

To lead higher education to be a foundation for a thriving, equitable and ecologically healthy world.

Our Values

Transparency, Collaboration, Hope, Stewardship, Innovation, Courage, Accountability, Diversity & Inclusion.

Key Programs:

Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS)

STARS™ is a transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance.

[STARS](#) is intended to engage and recognize the full spectrum of colleges and universities—from community colleges to research universities, and from institutions just starting their sustainability programs to long-time campus sustainability leaders. STARS encompasses long-term sustainability goals for already high-achieving institutions as well as entry points of recognition for institutions that are taking first steps toward sustainability.

STARS is designed to:

- Provide a framework for understanding sustainability in all sectors of higher education.
- Enable meaningful comparisons over time and across institutions using a common set of measurements developed with broad participation from the international campus sustainability community.
- Create incentives for continual improvement toward sustainability.
- Facilitate information sharing about higher education sustainability practices and performance.
- Build a stronger, more diverse campus sustainability community.

STARS is composed up of credits that span the breadth of higher education sustainability and include performance indicators and criteria organized into four categories: Academics, Engagement, Operations, and Planning & Administration. An institution may pursue credits that are applicable to its particular context and earn points toward a STARS Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum rating or to earn recognition as a STARS Reporter.

As of July 13, 2018, we have received 899 STARS reports by 459 institutions in 11 countries, with a total of 907 STARS participants in 37 countries.

AASHE Connect

AASHE Connect is a community that allows AASHE members an opportunity to connect, communicate and collaborate with one another.

Campus Sustainability Hub

The [Campus Sustainability Hub](#) is an online resource library that allows AASHE members to connect, share and learn about sustainability in higher education. The Campus Sustainability Hub is designed to raise visibility of institutions' sustainability programs and materials, and to facilitate information sharing between campuses and organizations. Resources are added daily.

The AASHE Bulletin

The [AASHE Bulletin](#) is a free, weekly e-newsletter that delivers the latest in campus sustainability news, resources, opportunities, events, and jobs and internships. The Bulletin is

crowd-sourced, meaning its contents are submitted by the higher education community. Anyone can [sign up](#) to receive this newsletter.

Professional Development

AASHE offers a wide variety of opportunities for professional development, including the annual [AASHE Conference & Expo](#), and other events such as [webinars and workshops](#).

AASHE Sustainability Awards

Each year at our annual conference, AASHE bestows its prestigious [Sustainability Awards](#) on the institutions and individuals that are leading higher education to a sustainable future. The awards program provides a vehicle for the higher education community to celebrate outstanding achievements and progress toward sustainability.

The awards categories are:

- Campus Sustainability Achievement
- Campus Sustainability Research
- Student Sustainability Leadership
- Lifetime Achievement Award (New in 2018)