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# MU STARS STATUS REPORT



The Environmental Affairs and Sustainability Committee takes great pleasure in announcing that the University of Missouri is one of 76 universities with a gold STARS (Sustainability Tracking and Rating System) rating, an Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance, in which 368 schools are participating and/or rated.

We take great pride in the fact that Mizzou is supportive of sustainability efforts and that we are one of only two schools in the Southeastern Conference to obtain a gold STARS rating. Many members of the campus community work tirelessly to make MU a leader among AASHE members, and we believe that you will find that we have much to celebrate.

Four of our programs earned “best practices” designations and will be shared by AASHE so that other members might learn from MU. They are:

- **Campus as a Living Laboratory:** Use infrastructure and operations as living environments multidisciplinary learning, applied research and practical work that advances sustainability on campus. Examples at MU include Sanborn Field and architectural studies’ sustainable technologies class.
- **Support for Underrepresented Groups:** MU embraces all people and many programs across campus offer support, including Office of Accessibility and ADA, Intensive English Program, Chancellor’s Diversity Initiative, LGBTQ Resource Center among many others.
- **The Energy Strategies Student Advisory Group (ESSAG),** created in 2012 to educate students on MU’s energy and climate action plans, allows for student opinions and involvement.
- **Mississippi/Missouri River Advanced Biomass/Biofuel Consortium (MRABC):** An MU led clean energy research consortium of world class universities, federal and state agencies, agribusiness and farmer cooperatives, whose goal is to develop a regional system for the sustainable production and distribution of bioenergy and bio-based products with net-positive, social, environmental and economic effects.

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# PEER COMPARISONS

## GOLD

University of Georgia  
University of Missouri



## SILVER

University of Arkansas  
Auburn University  
Louisiana State University  
Texas A&M University

### GOLD:

Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Emory University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Iowa State University  
The Pennsylvania State University  
Stanford University  
University of California, Davis  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, San Diego  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of Colorado Boulder  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
The University of Iowa  
University of Maryland, College Park  
University of Missouri-Columbia  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

### SILVER:

Boston University  
Brandeis University  
Carnegie Mellon University  
McGill University  
Princeton University  
Purdue University  
Rice University  
Texas A&M University  
The Ohio State University  
University at Buffalo,  
The State University of New York  
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
University of Pennsylvania  
The University of Texas at Austin



# ACADEMICS

## CURRICULUM 24.73/40.00

Academic Courses	7.73 / 14.00
Learning Outcomes	0.78 / 8.00
Undergraduate Program	3.00 / 3.00
Graduate Program	3.00 / 3.00
Immersive Experience	2.00 / 2.00
Sustainability Literacy Assessment	2.22 / 4.00
Incentives for Developing Courses	2.00 / 2.00
Campus as a Living Laboratory	4.00 / 4.00

## RESEARCH 12.12/18.00

Academic Research	7.97 / 12.00
Support for Research	4.00 / 4.00
Access to Research	0.15 / 2.00

# ENGAGEMENT

## CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT 19.00/20.00

Student Educators Program	4.00 / 4.00
Student Orientation	2.00 / 2.00
Student Life	2.00 / 2.00
Outreach Materials and Publications	2.00 / 2.00
Outreach Campaign	4.00 / 4.00
Employee Educators Program	3.00 / 3.00
Employee Orientation	0.00 / 1.00
Staff Professional Development	2.00 / 2.00

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT 15.84/22.00

Community Partnerships	3.00 / 3.00
Inter-Campus Collaboration	2.00 / 2.00
Continuing Education	5.00 / 5.00
Community Service	1.84 / 5.00
Community Stakeholder Engagement	2.00 / 2.00
Participation in Public Policy	0.00 / 2.00
Trademark Licensing	2.00 / 2.00
Hospital Network	0.00 / 1.00

Indicates best practice

# OPERATIONS

## AIR & CLIMATE 6.93/11.00

Greenhouse Gas Emissions	5.93 / 10.00
Outdoor Air Quality	1.00 / 1.00

## BUILDINGS 2.04/8.00

Building Operations and Maintenance	0.00 / 4.00
Building Design and Construction	1.04 / 3.00
Indoor Air Quality	1.00 / 1.00

## DINING SERVICES 1.64/7.00

Food and Beverage Purchasing	0.64 / 4.00
Low Impact Dining	1.00 / 3.00

## ENERGY 3.47/10.00

Building Energy Consumption	2.54 / 6.00
Clean and Renewable Energy	0.93 / 4.00

## GROUNDS 3.11/4.00

Landscape Management	1.11 / 2.00
Biodiversity	2.00 / 2.00

## PURCHASING 2.30/6.00

Electronics Purchasing	1.00 / 1.00
Cleaning Products Purchasing	0.92 / 1.00
Office Paper Purchasing	0.06 / 1.00
Inclusive and Local Purchasing	0.32 / 1.00
Life Cycle Cost Analysis	0.00 / 1.00
Guidelines for Business Partners	0.00 / 1.00

## TRANSPORTATION 3.49/7.00

Campus Fleet	0.08 / 1.00
Student Commute Modal Split	1.12 / 2.00
Employee Commute Modal Split	0.66 / 2.00
Support for Sustainable Transportation	1.63 / 2.00

## WASTE 5.05/10.00

Waste Minimization	1.93 / 5.00
Waste Diversion	1.21 / 3.00
Construction and Demolition	
Waste Diversion	0.91 / 1.00
Hazardous Waste Management	1.00 / 1.00

## WATER 5.43/7.00

Water Use	2.43 / 4.00
Rainwater Management	2.00 / 2.00
Wastewater Management	1.00 / 1.00

# PLANNING & ADMINISTRATION

## COORDINATION, PLANNING & GOVERNANCE 7.33/8.00

Sustainability Coordination	1.00 / 1.00
Sustainability Planning	3.33 / 4.00
Governance	3.00 / 3.00

## DIVERSITY & AFFORDABILITY 8.62/10.00

Diversity and Equity Coordination	2.00 / 2.00
Assessing Diversity and Equity	0.75 / 1.00
Support for Underrepresented Groups	2.00 / 2.00
Support for Future Faculty Diversity	1.00 / 1.00
Affordability and Access	2.87 / 4.00

## HEALTH, WELLBEING & WORK 4.00/7.00

Employee Compensation	2.07 / 3.00
Assessing Employee Satisfaction	0.60 / 1.00
Wellness Program	1.00 / 1.00
Workplace Health and Safety	0.33 / 2.00

## INVESTMENT 0.00/7.00

Committee on Investor Responsibility	0.00 / 2.00
Sustainable Investment	0.00 / 4.00
Investment Disclosure	0.00 / 1.00

# INNOVATION

## INNOVATION 4.00/4.00

Energy Strategies Student Advisory Group (ESSAG)	1.00 / 1.00
Fracking Chemicals Disrupt Hormone Function	1.00 / 1.00
Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative (MRBI)	1.00 / 1.00
MU Led Clean Energy Research Consortium	1.00 / 1.00

# TOTAL 125.1/202

+4 Innovation Credits

While we earned 65.93 of 100 points to obtain the gold rating, we feel confident that in the coming years we can improve on this and join the only school (Colorado State University) that has achieved a platinum rating. However, we will need some help from leadership to achieve this.

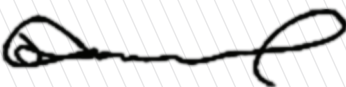
We were unable to claim more than 15 points in Academics, and this will take a considerable amount of time to remedy. We are certain that we can improve this score by capturing all of these relevant classes, programs and other sustainable practices by implementing a central reporting system. Some departments are unresponsive or do not consider themselves “reporters” of the sustainable work they are doing or could do to increase our rating. It is the committee’s goal, moving forward, to determine how MU can address those deficiencies, and we are asking for your help.

It is imperative that MU address the following in order to improve our STARS status and establish a more collaborative environment:

- Academic Courses and Learning Outcomes: Facilitate a mechanism for tagging sustainability or sustainability-related courses through registration. (STARS definitions determine the classification.)
- Sustainability Literacy Assessment: Pre-enrollment and post-graduation assessment survey of students’ sustainability knowledge.
- Sustainability Coordination and Sustainability Planning: Identify the appropriate contact person within each campus department who is dedicated to providing quality data and information on sustainable practices and planning.
- Waste Minimization and Waste Diversion: Educate faculty, students and staff on the cost of MU’s solid waste disposal and move toward a low-waste campus that embraces recycling and composting.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working with campus to become the second platinum STARS school.

On behalf of the EASC,



David Beversdorf, M.D.  
EASC chair  
Associate Professor, Radiology  
School of Medicine  
Center for Translational Neuroscience

**MORE INFORMATION:**

[stars.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-missouri-mo/report/2015-02-24/](http://stars.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-missouri-mo/report/2015-02-24/)