Campus Sustainability Assessment Tools

Using the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, & Ratings System (STARS)
First, a definition of sustainability...
What does STARS do?

- Provides a framework
- Enables meaningful comparisons
- Creates incentives for continual improvement
- Facilitates information sharing
- Builds a stronger, more (departmentally/functionally) diverse campus sustainability community.
Who can use it?
Apples and Oranges

Participating Schools are Characterized by Institutional Characteristics
Scoring:

1. STARS Reporter – can keep assessment confidential
2. STARS Ratings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STARS Rating</th>
<th>Minimum Score Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platinum</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Should you use it? Benefits are...

1. Gain international recognition for your sustainability efforts
2. Generate new ideas
3. Engage your community
4. Create a baseline for continuous improvement
5. Inform strategic planning and budgeting
6. Integrate sustainability into the curriculum
7. Make real progress toward sustainability
8. Be part of a global community of STARS Institutions
Credits in the STARS program:

- Academics
- Research and Engagement
- Operations
- Planning and Administration
- Innovation and Leadership (optional)
Decide which Credits to use

Are there credits that don't apply to your institution?

Are there credits that you are confident you will be able to earn?

Are there credits that your institution is not ready to pursue right now?
Decide on an Approach to Data Collection

- A sustainability champion
- A sustainability committee
- Student projects
- STARS course(s)
- A distributed model
Identifying Data Sources and Providers

You will need data from diverse departments across campus.

“Map out” who has the data you need.
Everyone will be happy to see you!
Most importantly: Be Organized

“Think this is bad? You should see the inside of my head.”

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA
Questions?

Aashe.org
Megan Fisher
mfisher@Haskell.edu