

Financial Statements With Independent Auditors' Report

May 31, 2024 and 2023



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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Trustees Shorter University Rome, Georgia

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Shorter University, which comprise the statements of financial position as of May 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Shorter University as of May 31, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of Shorter University and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Shorter University's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Board of Trustees Shorter University Rome, Georgia

### Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Shorter University's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Shorter University's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Lawrenceville, Georgia November 8, 2024

Capin Crouse LLP

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# **Statements of Financial Position**

	May 31,			
		2024		2023
ASSETS:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	6,774,136	\$	5,712,106
Short-term investments	Ψ	1,471,590	Ψ	1,028,689
Student accounts receivable		1,171,570		1,020,009
(net of allowance of \$1,826,224 and \$3,726,764, respectively)		661,663		144,029
Other accounts receivable		-		143,839
Prepaid expenses and other assets		791,771		824,476
Student/other loans receivable–net		584,540		895,239
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts		1,713,363		1,594,272
Investments held for long-term purposes		15,042,512		14,809,549
Property and equipment-net		35,856,548		33,984,488
Total Assets	\$	62,896,123	\$	59,136,687
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:				
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$	188,993	\$	181,475
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	Ψ	1,045,746	4	1,069,126
Deferred revenue		371,498		377,775
Asset retirement obligations		451,200		713,441
Long-term debt		13,623,171		13,763,171
Funds held in federal loan programs		486,445		792,193
Total liabilities		16,167,053		16,897,181
Net assets:				
Without donor restrictions		32,194,229		27,819,452
With donor restrictions:				
Restricted by purpose or time		5,415,021		5,438,397
Restricted in perpetuity		9,119,820		8,981,657
		14,534,841		14,420,054
Total net assets		46,729,070		42,239,506
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	62,896,123	\$	59,136,687

# **Statement of Activities**

Year Ended May 31, 2024

	Without Donor Restrictions		With Donor Restrictions	Total
REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT:				
Net tuition and fees	\$	13,569,210	\$ _	\$ 13,569,210
Auxiliary enterprises		5,899,719	-	5,899,719
Private gifts and grants		2,751,878	962,900	3,714,778
Investment return designated for operating activities		555,755	711,400	1,267,155
Government grants and contracts		245,439	232,701	478,140
Employee retention credit		4,304,000	-	4,304,000
Other income		1,535,161	-	1,535,161
Net assets released from restrictions		1,688,381	(1,688,381)	 
Total Operating Revenues and Other Support		30,549,543	218,620	30,768,163
		_	 _	_
OPERATING EXPENSES:				
Instructional		6,504,973	-	6,504,973
Academic services		989,572	-	989,572
Student services		6,417,899	-	6,417,899
Auxiliary enterprises		2,609,834	-	2,609,834
Institutional support		9,652,488	 	 9,652,488
Total Operating Expenses		26,174,766	-	26,174,766
Change in Net Assets from Operating Activities		4,374,777		
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITY:				
Investment return net of amount designated				
for current operations		_	(222,928)	(222,928)
Change in value of perpetual trusts		_	119,095	119,095
Total Non-Operating Activity			(103,833)	(103,833)
Change in Net Assets		4,374,777	114,787	4,489,564
Net Assets, Beginning of Year		27,819,452	14,420,054	42,239,506
Net Assets, End of Year	\$	32,194,229	\$ 14,534,841	\$ 46,729,070

# **Statement of Activities**

Year Ended May 31, 2023

	Without Donor Restrictions		With Donor Restrictions		Total
REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT:					
Net tuition and fees	\$	13,176,085	\$	_	\$ 13,176,085
Auxiliary enterprises		5,779,091		-	5,779,091
Private gifts and grants		3,258,262		1,524,841	4,783,103
Investment return designated for operating activities		74,442		685,800	760,242
Government grants and contracts		254,705		1,697,600	1,952,305
Other income		81,165		-	81,165
Net assets released from restrictions		3,706,064		(3,706,064)	, -
Total Operating Revenues and Other Support		26,329,814		202,177	26,531,991
OPERATING EXPENSES:					
Instructional		7,003,335		_	7,003,335
Academic services		926,191		-	926,191
Student services		6,363,272		-	6,363,272
Auxiliary enterprises		2,324,795		_	2,324,795
Institutional support		7,595,839		-	7,595,839
Total Operating Expenses		24,213,432		-	24,213,432
Change in Net Assets from Operating Activities		2,116,382			
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITY:					
Investment return net of amount designated					
for current operations		-		(489,319)	(489,319)
Change in value of perpetual trust				(32,930)	 (32,930)
Total Non-Operating Activity		-		(522,249)	(522,249)
Change in Net Assets		2,116,382		(320,072)	1,796,310
Net Assets, Beginning of Year		25,703,070		14,740,126	40,443,196
Net Assets, End of Year	\$	27,819,452	\$	14,420,054	\$ 42,239,506

# **Statements of Cash Flows**

	May 31,			
		2024		2023
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:				
Change in net assets	\$	4,489,564	\$	1,796,310
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash	Ψ	4,402,504	Ψ	1,770,510
provided (used) by operating activities:				
Depreciation		1,535,150		1,196,135
Amortization and accretion		(262,241)		9,029
Adjustment to allowance for receivables		650,312		(55,939)
Loss (gain) on disposal and sale of property and equipment		2,787		(750)
Realized and unrealized gains		(241,171)		(16,970)
Reinvested interest and dividends		(602,650)		(255,945)
Contributions received for long-term purposes		(14,663)		(67,800)
Change in value of perpetual trusts		(119,095)		32,930
Change in:		(1.165.046)		(55.560)
Student accounts receivable		(1,167,946)		(57,568)
Other accounts receivable		143,839		69
Prepaid expenses and other assets Student/other loans receivable		32,705		(68,349)
Accounts payable		310,699 7,518		3,621 151,821
Accounts payable Accrued expenses and other liabilities		(23,380)		83,884
Deferred revenue		(6,277)		(102,513)
Funds held in federal loan programs		(305,748)		(11,381)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities		4,429,403		2,636,584
		.,>,		
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:				
Purchase of property and equipment		(3,409,997)		(2,450,400)
Purchase of investments		(15,382,588)		(134,777)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment		15 550 540		750
Proceeds from sale of investments		15,550,549		256,148
Net Cash Used by Investing Activities		(3,242,036)		(2,328,279)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:				
Contributions received for long-term purposes		14,663		67,800
Proceeds from line of credit		170,389		=
Payments on line of credit		(170,389)		-
Payments on long-term debt		(140,000)		-
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Financing Activities		(125,337)		67,800
Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents		1,062,030		376,105
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year		5,712,106		5,336,001
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year	\$	6,774,136	\$	5,712,106
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE: Cash paid for interest	\$	895,182	\$	474,447
NONCASH FINANCING TRANSACTION:				
Repayment of note payable through refinance	\$	13,763,171	\$	

See notes to financial statements

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 1. NATURE OF ORGANIZATION:

Shorter University (University), was founded in 1873, and is a co-educational senior university owned and operated under the direction of the Executive Committee of the Georgia Baptist Mission Board. The Georgia Baptist Mission Board elects a board of trustees, which is empowered to operate the University. The University is committed to excellence in education. The Princeton Review annually includes Shorter on its lists of best value and best Southeastern colleges. The University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

Through its campus in Rome, Georgia, the University offers traditional bachelor's degrees as well as undergraduate and master's degrees in the online programs. The main sources of revenue are tuition and fee income as well as contributions from the public.

The University is exempt from federal and state income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, the University qualifies for charitable contribution deductions under Section 170(b)(1)(A) and has been classified as an organization other than a private foundation under Section 509(a)(1). However, income from certain activities not directly related to the University's tax-exempt purpose is subject to taxation as unrelated business income. The University has concluded that it does not have any unrecognized tax benefits resulting from current or prior period tax positions. Accordingly, no additional disclosures have been made on the financial statements regarding the *Income Tax* topic of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC). The University does not have any outstanding interest or penalties, and none have been recorded in the statements of activities for the years ended May 31, 2024 and 2023.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

The significant accounting policies followed by the University are described below to enhance the usefulness of the financial statements to the reader. The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash equivalents are defined as short-term, highly liquid debt securities that are both readily convertible to cash and have an original maturity of three months or less. The University maintains cash and cash equivalents in financial institutions which may, at times, exceed federally insured limits. At May 31, 2024 and 2023, the amounts in excess of federally insured limits were \$7,926,010 and \$5,465,069, respectively.

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued:

### STUDENT ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Student accounts receivables are reported net of any estimated losses due to uncollectible accounts. Tuition and fees are due in full at the beginning of each semester. Unpaid amounts from prior semesters are considered past due and students are not allowed to register for classes until those amounts are paid, or a payment plan is agreed to by the student. The University does not assess finance charges against student receivables that are past due.

The University provides an allowance for doubtful accounts equal to the estimated uncollectible receivables based upon historical trends and specific account analysis. Student receivables are written off on a case-by-case basis. Annually, all outstanding accounts are examined for age, payment activity, and enrollment status to determine which accounts should be written off. The allowance for doubtful accounts is maintained at a level which, in management's judgment, is adequate to absorb potential losses inherent from uncollectible receivables. The University separates accounts receivable into risk pools based on their aging. In determining the amount of the allowance as of May 31, 2024 and 2023, the University developed a loss rate for each risk pool. The loss rate is based on management's historical collection experience, adjusted for management's expectations about current and future economic conditions. As of May 31, 2024, the University increased its historical loss rate for each aging category by 2% due to rising inflation and other economic indicators.

### STUDENT/OTHER LOANS RECEIVABLE

Student loans receivable consists of amounts due from the Federal Perkins Loan Program administered by the University. Student loans are recorded net of estimated uncollectible amounts. For student loans, the University only recognizes the income after the interest is received. Any associated fees and costs are expensed as they occur. Loans receivable are considered past due if full principal payments are not received in accordance with the contractual terms.

Other loans receivable consist of amounts due from faculty and/or staff as a part of participating in a continuing education program funded from an estate gift. Participants apply to the University and are awarded/approved for a loan to be forgiven over a five year period as long as the participant continues employment at the University.

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued:

### BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN PERPETUAL TRUSTS

The University is the beneficiary of various perpetual trusts created by donors, held and administered by independent trustees. Under the terms of the trusts, the University has a legally enforceable right to receive income earned on the trust assets in perpetuity. The fair value of the beneficial interest in the perpetual trust is recognized as an asset and as a contribution restricted in perpetuity at the date the trust is established or the University is notified. The University's estimate of fair value is based on fair value information received from the trustees. The trust assets consist of, but are not limited to, cash and cash equivalents, proprietary funds, mutual funds, and equity securities. These assets are not subject to the control or direction by the University. Gains and losses, which are not distributed by the trusts, are reflected as change in value of split interest agreements in the statements of activities and reported as changes in net assets with donor restrictions. Distributions from the trust are reported as investment income.

### **INVESTMENTS**

The University's investments consist of cash and money market funds, certificates of deposit, and various marketable securities held at financial institutions. Investments in equity securities with readily determinable fair values and all debt securities are recorded at fair value with gains and losses reported in the statements of activities. Other investments are reported at cost. Donated investments are recorded at market value at the date of donation and thereafter carried in conformity with the stated policy.

Investment earnings, including interest and dividend income and unrealized gains and losses, are recorded in net assets without donor restriction unless their use is restricted by purpose or time or restricted in perpetuity by explicit donor stipulation.

At May 31, 2024 and 2023, the University held \$13,623,171 and \$14,000,000 of investments that could not be used without direct permission from the University's primary lender.

#### PROPERTY AND EOUIPMENT

Property and equipment purchased since June 30, 1969, are recorded by the University at cost at date of acquisition or fair market value at date of donation, if acquired as gifts. Plant assets acquired prior to June 30, 1969, were valued at an appraised value at that time which was designed to closely approximate historical valuation for the plant as of that date. Purchases and gifts of property and equipment valued at \$1,500 or more are capitalized. Depreciation is provided over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets on a straight-line basis.

A summary of depreciable lives follows:

Buildings 50 years
Improvements other than buildings 20 years
Furniture, fixtures and equipment 5-10 years

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued:

### ASSET RETIREMENT OBLIGATIONS

Asset retirement obligations (ARO) are legal obligations associated with the retirement of long-lived assets. These liabilities are initially recorded at fair value and the related asset retirement costs are capitalized by increasing the carrying amount of the related assets by the same amount as the liability. Asset retirement costs are subsequently depreciated over the useful lives of the related assets. Subsequent to initial recognition, the University records period-to-period changes in the ARO liability resulting from the passage of time and revisions to either the timing or the amount of the original estimate of undiscounted cash flows.

### **CLASSES OF NET ASSETS**

The financial statements report amounts by class of net assets:

*Net assets without donor restrictions* are currently available at the direction of the board for use in the University's operations, designated for certain purposes, or invested in property and equipment.

*Net assets with donor restrictions* are subject to donor imposed stipulations for specific operating purposes or for the acquisition of property and equipment or are time restricted, or are contributed with donor restrictions requiring that they be held in perpetuity with income used for operations and scholarships.

### REVENUE AND REVENUE RECOGNITION

#### Tuition and fees revenue:

For both the traditional and nontraditional programs, tuition revenue is recognized in the reporting period in which the academic programs are delivered. Traditional programs are delivered in the Fall (mid-August to mid-December) and Spring (mid-January to mid-May) academic terms, as well as one Summer term described below. Nontraditional courses are delivered in two eight-week modules within each academic term.

Merit and need-based institutional scholarships are awarded to students to defray the costs of the academic programs, which reduce the amount of revenue recognized. Payments for tuition are due by the start of the academic term.

The University offers one Summer term, starting in early May and ending in mid-August. The term is broken up into two modules. Maymester occurs during the month of May, while traditional and online occur from May to mid-August. Revenue for the Summer term is recognized ratably over the term.

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued:

REVENUE AND REVENUE RECOGNITION, continued Net tuition and fees revenue consist of:

	Year Ende	Year Ended May 31,			
	2024	2023			
Tuition and fees Less student aid	\$ 26,216,847 (12,647,637)	\$ 26,700,327 (13,524,242)			
Net tuition and fees	\$ 13,569,210	\$ 13,176,085			

#### Auxiliary enterprise revenue:

Auxiliary enterprises exist to furnish goods or services to students, faculty, staff, or incidentally to the general public. Fees charged for auxiliary enterprises are priced to offset the cost of the goods or services provided. The distinguishing characteristic of auxiliary enterprises is that they are managed as an essentially self-supporting activity. Revenues and expenses from auxiliary enterprises are reported as changes in net assets without donor restrictions.

Auxiliary enterprises revenue includes activities for student housing and dining facilities. A small number of institutional scholarships specifically for defraying the costs of residential services are awarded, which reduce the amount of revenue recognized. Payments for housing and dining services are due approximately by the start of the academic term. Dining plans are not offered during the summer term. Performance obligations for housing and dining services are delivered over the academic terms. Consequently, associated revenues are earned and recognized over the course of each term as the services are delivered.

#### Contributions and support:

The University recognizes support when contributions are made, which may be when cash is received, unconditional promises are made, or ownership of other assets is transferred to the University. Conditional promises to give with a measurable performance or other barrier and a right of return are not recognized until the conditions on which they depend have been met.

A portion of the University's revenue is derived from cost-reimbursable federal contracts and grants, which are conditioned upon certain performance requirements and/or the incurrence of allowable qualifying expenses. Amounts received are recognized as revenue when the University has incurred expenditures in compliance with specific contract or grant provisions. Amounts received prior to incurring qualifying expenditures are reported as refundable advances in the statements of financial position.

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued:

### REVENUE AND REVENUE RECOGNITION, continued

### Contributions and support, continued:

The University reports gifts of cash and other assets as restricted revenue if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets. When a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statements of activities as net assets released from restrictions. All contributions are considered to be available for use without donor restrictions unless specifically restricted by the donor.

The University reports gifts of land, buildings, and equipment as support without donor restrictions unless explicit donor stipulations specify how the donated assets must be used. Gifts of long-lived assets with explicit restrictions that specify how the assets are to be used and gifts of cash and other assets that must be used to acquire long-lived assets are reported as restricted support. Absent explicit donor stipulations about how those long-lived assets must be maintained, the University reports expirations of donor restrictions when donated or acquired assets have been placed in service.

Gains and losses on investments are reported as increases or decreases in net assets without donor restrictions unless their use is restricted by explicit donor stipulation or law.

#### EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT

For the year ended May 31, 2024, the statement of activities includes employee retention credit revenue for the amount of credit claimed under the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) which was established by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Laws and regulations concerning government programs, including the ERC, are complex and subject to varying interpretation. Claims made under the CARES Act may also be subject to retroactive audit and review. There can be no assurance that regulatory authorities will not challenge the University's claim to the ERC, and it is not possible to determine the impact (if any) this would have upon the University.

#### **EXPENSES**

Expenses are recorded when incurred in accordance with the accrual basis of accounting. The costs of providing the program services and supporting activities of the University have been summarized on a functional basis in the statements of activities. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the program services and supporting activities benefited.

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued:

### STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The University participates in various programs administered by the Department of Education (ED) and state boards, and the University acts as an agent for the respective agencies. The governmental grants amounts reported exclude funds directly awarded and credited to students under the various federal and state programs; however, substantial portions of the tuition and fees revenue and collection of accounts receivable as of May 31, 2024 and 2023, are dependent upon the University's continued participation in the various programs.

The University has been awarded three different types of Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) under three legislative acts since March 13, 2020. Institutions of higher education were awarded various levels of HEERF grant eligibility based upon overall enrollment.

The grants awarded to the University and related activity as of May 31, 2023:

		Awarded as of ay 31, 2021		ecognized as of ay 31, 2023	R	emaining
HEERF III: Institutional	\$	1,601,699	\$	1,354,786	\$	246,913
The grants awarded to the University and related activity as	s of M	May 31, 2024	:			
		Awarded as of		ecognized as of	D.	emaining
HEERF III:	IVI	ay 31, 2021	IVI	ay 31, 2024		emaming
Institutional	\$	246,913	\$	246,913	\$	

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued:

### OPERATING AND NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES

The statements of activities present the changes in net assets of the University from both operating activities and nonoperating activities. Operating revenues and expenses relate primarily to educational programs provided by the University. The portion of investment return appropriated for operations and student scholarships on long-term investments held for endowments and similar purposes under the University's total return spending policy is considered operating revenue. Activity with donor restrictions is not considered to be operating.

Nonoperating activities consist primarily of (a) change in value of split-interest agreements and (b) investment return in excess or less than amounts utilized for operations and scholarships as defined by the University's spending policy.

### RECENTLY ADOPTED ACCOUNTING STANDARD

In June 2016, the FASB issued guidance (FASB ASC 326) which significantly changed how entities will measure credit losses for most financial assets and certain other instruments that are not measured at fair value through net income. The most significant change in this standard is a shift from the incurred loss model to the expected loss model. Under the standard, disclosures are required to provide users of the financial statements with useful information in analyzing an entity's exposure to credit risk and the measurement of credit losses. Financial assets held by the University that are subject to the guidance in FASB ASC 326 are student accounts receivable. The University adopted the standard effective June 1, 2023. The impact of the adoption was not considered material to the financial statements and primarily resulted in enhanced disclosures only.

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 3. <u>LIQUIDITY AND FUNDS AVAILABLE:</u>

The following reflects the University's financial assets as of the statement of financial position date, reduced by amounts not available for general use because of contractual or donor-imposed restrictions within one year of the statement of financial position date. Financial assets are considered unavailable when illiquid or not convertible to cash within one year. The University has a policy to structure its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due.

	May 31,				
	2024			2023	
Financial assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	6,774,136	\$	5,712,106	
Short-term investments		1,471,590		1,028,689	
Student accounts receivable-net		661,663		144,029	
Other assets		1,015		1,256	
Other accounts receivable		-		143,839	
Investments held for long-term purposes		15,042,512		14,809,549	
Financial assets, at year-end		23,950,916		21,839,468	
Less those unavailable for general expenditures within one year due to:					
Board-designated net assets for various purposes		(1,479,732)		(1,411,135)	
Certificate of deposit held as collateral for loan		(13,623,171)		(14,000,000)	
Term endowment funds		(1,042,511)		(809,548)	
		(16,145,414)		(16,220,683)	
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	\$	7,805,502	\$	5,618,785	
			_		

The amounts designated by the board could be drawn upon if the governing board approves that action. The University also has a pre-approved available line of credit for up to \$1,500,000 with a bank, which could be drawn upon in the event of an unanticipated liquidity need. There were no borrowings on the line of credit at May 31, 2024.

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

## 4. STUDENT ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE-NET:

Student accounts receivable—net consist of:

	May 31,			
		2024		2023
Student accounts receivable-main campus	\$	2,484,980	\$	3,423,698
Student accounts receivable–professional programs		2,907		447,095
		2,487,887		3,870,793
Less allowance for doubtful accounts		(1,826,224)		(3,726,764)
		661,663	<u>\$</u>	144,029

### 5. STUDENT/OTHER LOANS RECEIVABLE–NET:

The University's financing receivables consist of a revolving loan fund for Federal Perkins Loans for which the University acts as an agent for the federal government and an Institutional Loan Fund created by the University to assist faculty/staff in funding their further education.

Student/other loans receivable-net:

	May 31, 2024			
	Ins	titutional		Federal
	Lo	an Fund	Per	kins Loans
Loans receivable, ending balance (evaluated for impairment) Allowance for credit losses	\$ \$	11,388	\$ \$	573,152
Recorded investment by credit quality indicator:	•	44.200	Φ.	
Performing	\$	11,388	\$	573,152
Non-performing	\$		\$	
		May 3	1, 202	23
	Ins	May 3 titutional		23 Federal
		-	:	
		titutional an Fund	:	Federal kins Loans
Loans receivable, ending balance (evaluated for impairment)		titutional	:	Federal
Loans receivable, ending balance (evaluated for impairment) Allowance for credit losses		titutional an Fund	:	Federal kins Loans
Allowance for credit losses  Recorded investment by credit quality indicator:		titutional an Fund 15,069	:	Federal kins Loans 880,170
Allowance for credit losses		titutional an Fund	:	Federal kins Loans

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 5. STUDENT/OTHER LOANS RECEIVABLE–NET, continued:

The University determined the allowance for estimated losses on these financing receivables by looking at historical default rates and analyzing the aging of the past due loans. All non-performing loans are included in the allowance for credit losses.

For Federal Perkins Loans, the credit quality indicator is performance determined by delinquency status, origination, and servicing of the loan. Delinquency status is updated monthly by the University's loan servicer. Federal Perkins Loans that are originated and serviced properly under Department of Education regulations can be assigned to the Department of Education when deemed no longer collectible. The University is not aware of any material amount of loans not properly originated or serviced under Department of Education regulations.

Additional disclosures required by the *Credit Quality of Financing Receivables* topic of the FASB Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) have not been included in these financial statements due to immateriality.

### 6. INVESTMENTS (INCLUDING SHORT-TERM):

Investments, including short-term holdings, consist of:

	May 31,			
	2024	2023		
Held at cost:				
Cash and money market funds	\$ 1,420,991	\$ 988,122		
Certificate of deposit	14,000,000	14,000,000		
	15,420,991	14,988,122		
Held at fair value:				
Equity securities	853,684	666,634		
Domestic equity mutual funds	226,290	172,521		
International equity mutual funds	13,137	10,961		
	1,093,111	850,116		
	\$ 16,514,102	\$ 15,838,238		

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

## 6. INVESTMENTS (INCLUDING SHORT-TERM), continued:

Investments are held for the following purposes:

	Year Ended May 31,			
	2024	2023		
Short-term investments Investments held for endowments and scholarships	\$ 1,471,590 15,042,512	\$ 1,028,689 14,809,549		
	\$ 16,514,102	\$ 15,838,238		

For the years ended May 31, 2024 and 2023, \$13,623,171 and \$14,000,000, respectively, of the certificate of deposit was held as collateral for certain debt, as described in Note 10.

Investment income was used for the following purposes:

	 Year Ended May 31,  2024 2023 \$ 1,267,155 \$ 760,242				
	 		2023		
Appropriated by the board for operations Nonoperating investment income:	\$ 1,267,155	\$	760,242		
Without donor restrictions With donor restrictions	 (222,928)		(489,319)		
	\$ 1,044,227	\$	270,923		

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 7. <u>DISCLOSURE OF FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS:</u>

The Fair Value Measurements and Disclosure topic of the FASB ASC establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. This hierarchy consists of three broad levels: Level 1 inputs consist of unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and have the highest priority, Level 2 inputs consist of observable inputs other than quoted prices for identical assets, and Level 3 inputs have the lowest priority. The University uses appropriate valuation techniques based on the available inputs to measure the fair value of its investments. When available, the University measures fair value using Level 1 inputs because they generally provide the most reliable evidence of fair value. Level 3 inputs are only used when Level 1 or Level 2 inputs are not available.

The following tables present the fair value measurements of assets recognized in the accompanying statements of financial position measured at fair value on a recurring basis and the level within the fair value hierarchy in which the fair value measurements fall:

		Fair Value Measurements at May 31, 2024											
		Total		Level 1		Level 2		Level 3					
Investments assigned to hierarchical valuation levels:													
Equity securities Domestic equity mutual funds International equity mutual funds	\$	853,684 226,290 13,137	\$	853,684 226,290 13,137	\$	- - -	\$	- - -					
		1,093,111	\$	1,093,111	\$		\$	-					
Investments measured at cost: Cash and money market funds Certificate of deposit		1,420,991 14,000,000 15,420,991											
Total investments	\$	16,514,102											
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts	\$	1,713,363	\$	-	\$	<u>-</u>	_\$_	1,713,363					

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 7. DISCLOSURE OF FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS, continued:

			]	Fair Value M May 3			
		Total	Level 1			Level 2	Level 3
Investments assigned to hierarchical valuation levels:							
Equity securities	\$	666,634	\$	666,634	\$	-	\$ -
Domestic equity mutual funds		172,521		172,521		-	-
International equity mutual funds		10,961		10,961			
		850,116	\$	850,116			\$ 
Investments measured at cost: Cash and money market funds Certificate of deposit		988,122 14,000,000 14,988,122					
Total investments	\$	15,838,238					
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts	\$	1,594,272	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 1,594,272

*Valuation techniques:* Fair values for stock are based on quoted market prices in an active market. The fair value of mutual funds is based on quoted net asset values of the shares held by the University at year-end. The fair value of beneficial interest in perpetual trusts is based on the value of the University's proportional share of the overall assets held by the other organizations.

Changes in valuation techniques: None.

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 8. ENDOWMENT FUNDS:

The University's endowment consists of approximately 160 individual funds established for a variety of purposes as a result of donor contributions and board designation. As required by GAAP, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the board to function as endowments, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

The University has interpreted Georgia's adoption of the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds, absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary.

As a result of this interpretation, the University classifies as net assets restricted in perpetuity (a) the original value of gifts donated to the permanent endowment, (b) the original value of subsequent gifts to the permanent endowment, and (c) accumulations to the permanent endowment made in accordance with the direction of applicable donor gift instruments at the time the accumulation is added to the fund. The remaining portion of the donor-restricted endowment fund in excess of the original fair value that is not classified in net assets restricted in perpetuity is classified as net assets restricted by purpose or time until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by UPMIFA.

In accordance with UPMIFA, the University considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

- 1. The duration and preservation of the fund
- 2. The purposes of the University and the donor-restricted endowment fund
- 3. General economic conditions
- 4. The possible effect of inflation and deflation
- 5. The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
- 6. Other resources of the University
- 7. The investment policies of the University

Endowment net asset composition by type of fund at May 31, 2024:

		With Donor Restrictions										
	Term	Accumulated	Original	Endowment	_							
	Endowment	Gains	Gift	Borrowing	Total							
Donor-restricted funds	\$ 1,042,511	\$ 1,257,112	\$ 10,261,484	\$ (2,849,279)	\$ 9,711,828							

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

# 8. ENDOWMENT FUNDS, continued:

Changes in endowment net assets for the year ended May 31, 2024:

	With Donor Restrictions										
		Term	A	ccumulated	Original	Endowment					
	Endowment Gains		Gains	Gift	Borrowing		Total				
Endowment net assets,											
June 1, 2023	\$	809,548	\$	1,484,445	\$ 10,242,416	\$ (2,849,279)	\$	9,687,130			
Investment return		232,963		484,067	4,405	-		721,435			
Contributions		-		_	14,663	-		14,663			
Appropriations for											
expenditure		_		(711,400)				(711,400)			
Endowment net assets,											
May 31, 2024	\$	1,042,511		1,257,112	\$10,261,484	\$ (2,849,279)	\$	9,711,828			

Endowment net asset composition by type of fund at May 31, 2023:

		With Donor Restrictions											
	Term	Accumulated	Original	Endowment									
	Endowment	Gains	Gift	Borrowing	Total								
Donor-restricted funds	\$ 809,548	\$ 1,484,445	\$ 10,242,416	\$ (2,849,279)	\$ 9,687,130								

Changes in endowment net assets for the year ended May 31, 2023:

	With Donor Restrictions										
	Term Endowment		A	ccumulated Gains	Original Gift	Endowment Borrowing	Total				
			_	- Cullis							
Endowment net assets,											
June 1, 2022	\$	791,588	\$	1,975,536	\$ 10,172,844	\$ (2,849,279)	\$10,090,689				
Investment return		17,960		194,709	1,772	-	214,441				
Contributions		-			67,800	-	67,800				
Appropriations for											
expenditure		-		(685,800)			(685,800)				
							_				
Endowment net assets,											
May 31, 2023	\$	809,548	\$	1,484,445	\$ 10,242,416	\$ (2,849,279)	\$ 9,687,130				

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 8. ENDOWMENT FUNDS, continued:

	May	y 31,
	2024	2023
Net assets with donor restrictions—restricted in perpetuity:  The portion of perpetual endowment funds that is required to be retained permanently either by explicit donor stipulations or by UPMIFA.	\$10,261,484	\$ 10,242,416
Net assets with donor restrictions—restricted specified purpose or by time: The portion of perpetual endowment funds subject to a time restriction under UPMIFA:		
With purpose restrictions	\$ 1,257,112	\$ 1,484,445
Term endowment funds	1,042,511	809,548
	\$ 2,299,623	\$ 2,293,993

#### Funds with Deficiencies:

From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual donor-restricted endowment funds may fall below the level that the donor or UPMIFA requires the University to retain as a fund of perpetual duration. In accordance with GAAP, there are no deficiencies of this nature as of May 31, 2024 and 2023.

### Return Objectives and Risk Parameters:

The University has adopted investment and spending policies for the endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets. Endowment assets include those assets of donor-restricted funds that the University must hold in perpetuity as well as board-designated funds. Under this policy, as approved by the board, the endowment assets are invested in a manner that is intended to seek a total return of five percent plus the growth in the Consumer Price Index over a market cycle of three to five years. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amounts.

#### Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives:

To satisfy its long-term rate-of-returns objectives, the University relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The University targets a diversified asset allocation to achieve its long-term objectives with prudent risk restraints.

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 8. ENDOWMENT FUNDS, continued:

Spending Policy and How the Investment Objectives Related to Spending Policy:

The University has a policy of appropriating for distribution each year up to five percent of its endowment fund's average fair value for the 20 quarters proceeding the year in which the return is expected on its endowment. Accordingly, over the long term, the University expects the current spending policy to allow its endowment to grow at an average of the long-term rate of inflation. This is consistent with the University's objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets held in perpetuity as well as to provide additional real growth through new gifts and investment return.

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

## 9. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT–NET:

Property and equipment consists of:

		May	31	,
		2024		2023
Land	\$	2,537,912	\$	2,520,127
Buildings	Ψ	46,898,173	4	45,146,497
Improvements other than buildings		2,110,855		2,115,590
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment		17,904,021		17,231,731
		69,450,961		67,013,945
Less accumulated depreciation		(33,694,129)		(33,291,176)
		35,756,832		33,722,769
Construction in progress		99,716		261,719
	\$	35,856,548	\$	33,984,488
10. LONG-TERM DEBT:				
Long-term debt consists of:				
		May	31,	
		2024		2023
Effective June 2023, refinance of note payable in the principal amount of \$13,763,171, with a certain financial institution; bears interest at a fixed rate of 6.5%. Beginning July 2023, the loan requires monthly interest-only payments on the outstanding principal balance through June 2025, at which time the unpaid principal and accrued interest is due. Note is secured by a certificate of deposit. Subject to a non-financial covenant.	\$	13,623,171	\$	-
Note payable to a certain financial institution in the principal amount of \$14,000,000—refinanced during the year ended May 31, 2024, into the note payable listed above.		<u>-</u>		13,763,171
	\$	13,623,171	\$	13,763,171
Maturities of long-term debt are as follows:				
Years Ending May 31,		Amounts		
2025	\$	_		
2026	,	13,623,171		
	\$	13,623,171		

The non-financial covenant on the note payable has been met and/or waived as of May 31, 2024.

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 11. LINE OF CREDIT:

The University has a line-of-credit (LOC) agreement with a bank to provide aggregate borrowings up to \$1,500,000. The LOC bears interest at the prime rate minus 0.75% and matures in June 2025. There were no borrowings on the LOC at May 31, 2024.

### 12. NET ASSETS:

Net assets consist of:

	May	31,
	2024	2023
Without donor restrictions:		
Undesignated	\$ 30,714,497	\$ 26,408,317
Board-designated	1,479,732	1,411,135
	32,194,229	27,819,452
With donor restrictions:		
Restricted by purpose or time:		
Accumulated earnings-student financial assistance	1,257,112	1,484,445
Student financial assistance	412,064	416,142
Instruction and other support	2,535,051	2,559,975
Term endowment funds	1,042,511	809,548
Other restricted purposes	162,535	162,535
Perpetual trusts held by others-undistributed earnings	5,748	5,752
	5,415,021	5,438,397
Restricted in perpetuity:		
Endowment fund-student financial assistance	10,261,484	10,242,416
Borrowing on endowment	(2,849,279)	(2,849,279)
Perpetual trusts held by others	1,707,615	1,588,520
	9,119,820	8,981,657
	\$ 46,729,070	\$ 42,239,506

### 13. DONOR CONCENTRATION:

During the years ended May 31, 2024 and 2023, three donors gave 71% and 68% of the University's total contributions, respectively.

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 14. EXPENSES BY BOTH NATURE AND FUNCTION:

The financial statements report certain categories of expenses that are attributable to more than one program or supporting function. Therefore, these expenses require allocation on a reasonable basis that is consistently applied. The expenses that are allocated include depreciation, interest, facilities, repairs and maintenance, and insurance which are allocated on a square-footage basis. Salaries and benefits are allocated directly to the function where time and effort are expended. Student reengagement expense consists of institutional HEERF funds applied to student receivable balances. The University has reported both student aid and student reengagement expenditures as part of the student services function.

Functional expenses by natural classification for the year ended May 31, 2024:

		Program	Activities		Institutional Support					
		Academic	Student	Auxiliary	Total	General and		Total		
	Instructional	Services	Services	Enterprises	Program	Administrative	Fund-raising	Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	\$ 5,690,010	\$ 547,900	\$ 3,005,464	\$ 553,544	\$ 9,796,918	\$ 3,010,577	\$ 223,865	\$ 13,031,360		
Depreciation	199,568	138,164	214,921	629,412	1,182,065	353,085	-	1,535,150		
Interest expense	116,374	80,566	125,325	367,025	689,290	205,892	-	895,182		
Professional and legal fees	584	10,890	63	-	11,537	141,548	-	153,085		
Occupancy	54,130	-	553,508	34,206	641,844	1,533,971	-	2,175,815		
Office supplies and expense	4,645	477	6,800	-	11,922	11,287	6,147	29,356		
Repairs and maintenance	36,761	44	2,520	-	39,325	19,792	-	59,117		
Memberships and events	49,660	19,641	512,987	93,409	675,697	704,449	73,235	1,453,381		
Travel and conferences	13,721	-	701,804	-	715,525	6,543	1,306	723,374		
Contract services	13,796	149,222	612,072	97,527	872,617	1,190,237	2,903	2,065,757		
Bank and merchant fees	-	-	-	-	-	676,733	7,904	684,637		
Food	-	-	-	834,711	834,711	-	-	834,711		
Other expenses	325,724	42,668	682,435	-	1,050,827	1,396,930	86,084	2,533,841		
	\$ 6,504,973	\$ 989,572	\$ 6,417,899	\$ 2,609,834	\$ 16,522,278	\$ 9,251,044	\$ 401,444	\$ 26,174,766		

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

## 14. EXPENSES BY BOTH NATURE AND FUNCTION, continued:

Functional expenses by natural classification for the year ended May 31, 2023:

			Program	ivities			Institutional Support								
			1	Academic		Student		Auxiliary		Total	General and				Total
	In	structional	Services			Services		Enterprises		Program		Administrative		ınd-raising	Expenses
Salaries and benefits	\$	5,783,032	\$	547,795	\$	2,875,797	\$	582,018	\$	9,788,642	\$	2,954,968	\$	211,751	\$ 12,955,361
Depreciation		155,498		107,652		167,459		490,415		921,024		275,111		-	1,196,135
Interest expense		61,678		42,700		66,423		194,523		365,324		109,123		-	474,447
Professional and legal fees		875		19,517		1,105		-		21,497		198,924		-	220,421
Occupancy		65,471		15		507,644		30,539		603,669		1,330,577		-	1,934,246
Office supplies and expense		4,773		585		5,092		-		10,450		11,707		7,974	30,131
Repairs and maintenance		57,213		-		16		-		57,229		354,474		-	411,703
Memberships and events		46,750		6,997		464,823		105,074		623,644		597,247		27,934	1,248,825
Travel and conferences		14,287		-		621,113		-		635,400		4,346		853	640,599
Contract services		12,774		150,407		572,020		81,662		816,863		890,595		30,000	1,737,458
Student reengagement expense		-		-		496,901		-		496,901		-		-	496,901
Bank and merchant fees		-		-		-		-		-		104,234		5,282	109,516
Food		-		-		-		790,109		790,109		-		-	790,109
Other expenses		800,984		50,523		584,879		50,455		1,486,841		410,278		70,461	1,967,580
-															
	\$	7,003,335	\$	926,191	\$	6,363,272	\$	2,324,795	\$	16,617,593	\$	7,241,584	\$	354,255	\$ 24,213,432

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

May 31, 2024 and 2023

### 15. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS:

Subsequent events have been evaluated through November 8, 2024, which represents the date the financial statements were available to be issued. Subsequent events after that date have not been evaluated.

### 16. <u>RELATED PARTIES TRANSACTIONS:</u>

The University is organized under the auspices of the Georgia Baptist Convention (Convention). The Convention, a related party, elects the University's board of trustees as well as provides significant funding for operations. During the years ended May 31, 2024 and 2023, the Convention made cash donations to the University in the amount of \$1,786,689 and \$2,050,552, respectively.

The Georgia Baptist Foundation (Foundation), another related party, provides investment services for the University. At May 31, 2024 and 2023, the Foundation held in trust for the benefit of the University \$1,166,986 and \$1,104,358, respectively. During the years ended May 31, 2024 and 2023, the Foundation made distributions to the University of \$178,180 and \$217,483, respectively.