

Audit Committee Bradley University Peoria, Illinois

We have audited the financial statements of Bradley University (the University) as of and for the year ended May 31, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated September 17, 2021. We have previously communicated to you information about our responsibilities under auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

### Significant audit findings

# Qualitative aspects of accounting practices

### Accounting policies

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the University are described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2021.

We noted no transactions entered into by the University during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

### Accounting estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were:

- Management's estimate of the reserve for uncollectible accounts, student loans, and contributions receivable is based on historical collection and allowance practices, as well as an evaluation by management of current trends.
- Management's estimates of the contributions receivable, annuities receivable, and the reserve for annuities are based on fair market values using discount rates.
- Management's estimate of the liability for postretirement benefits other than pensions is based on actuarial models that incorporate assumptions including discount rates and healthcare cost trend rates.
- Management's estimate of the fair value of its investments is based on quoted prices in active markets, models incorporating observable inputs such as quoted yield, and models developed utilizing net asset value or other discounted cash flow assumptions.



 Management's estimate of the reserve for incurred but not reported medical claims is based on historical claims and payment experience.

## Financial statement disclosures

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. There were no particularly sensitive financial statement disclosures.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

# Difficulties encountered in performing the audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

#### **Uncorrected misstatements**

Professional standards require us to accumulate all misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management did not identify and we did not notify them of any uncorrected financial statement misstatements.

#### Corrected misstatements

Management did not identify and we did not notify them of any financial statement misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures.

#### Disagreements with management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditors' report. No such disagreements arose during our audit.

### Management representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the attached management representation letter.

### Management consultations with other independent accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the University's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditors' opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### Significant issues discussed with management prior to engagement

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to engagement as the University's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our engagement.

### Other information in documents containing audited financial statements

With respect to the financial responsibility ratio supplemental schedule accompanying the financial statements, on which we were engaged to report in relation to the financial statements as a whole, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period or the reasons for such changes, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves. We have issued our report thereon dated September 17, 2021.

Our auditors' opinion, the audited financial statements, and the notes to financial statements should only be used in their entirety. Inclusion of the audited financial statements in a document you prepare, such as an annual report, should be done only with our prior approval and review of the document.

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This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee and management of Bradley University and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Clifton Larson Allen LLP

Peoria, Illinois September 17, 2021 September 17, 2021

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP 301 SW Adam Street, Suite 1000 Peoria, IL 61602

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Bradley University, which comprise the statements of financial position as of May 31, 2021 and 2020, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, for the purpose of expressing an opinion on whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of September 17, 2021, the following representations made to you during your audit.

#### **Financial Statements**

- We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated June 21, 2021, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 2. We acknowledge and have fulfilled our responsibility 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.
- 3. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 4. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control over the receipt and recording of contributions.
- 5. We have identified all accounting estimates that could be material to the financial statements, including the key factors and significant assumptions used in making those estimates, and we believe the estimates (including those measured at fair value) and the significant assumptions used in making those accounting estimates are reasonable.

- 6. Significant estimates have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of U.S. GAAP. Significant estimates are estimates at the financial statement date that could change materially within the next year.
- 7. Related party relationships and transactions, including, but not limited to, accounts receivable or payable, sales, purchases, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of U.S. GAAP.
- 8. All events occurring subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which U.S. GAAP requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
- 9. We have not identified or been notified of any uncorrected financial statement misstatements.
- 10. The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 11. Material concentrations have been properly disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Concentrations refer to individual or group concentrations of contributors, grantors, clients, customers, suppliers, lenders, products, services, fund-raising events, sources of labor or materials, licenses or other rights, or operating areas or markets for which events could occur that would significantly disrupt normal finances within the next year.
- 12. Receivables recorded in the financial statements represent valid claims against debtors for sales or other charges arising on or before the financial statement date and have been reduced to their estimated net realizable value.
- 13. Arrangements with financial institutions involving compensating balances or other arrangements involving restrictions on cash balances, lines of credit, or similar arrangements have been properly disclosed.
- 14. We have no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, liabilities, or net asset balances.
- 15. We have reviewed long-lived assets and certain identifiable intangibles to be held and used for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances have indicated that the carrying amount of assets might not be recoverable and, when necessary, have appropriately recorded the adjustment.
- 16. Designations of net assets, or reclassifications of net assets, have been properly authorized, approved, and reflected in the financial statements.
- 17. The cost allocation methods used to allocate the **entity's** expenses to the appropriate functional classification as program services, management and general, and fundraising are properly supported by the **entity's** books and records. The cost allocation methods used are rational, systematic, and consistently applied. The bases used for allocation of functional expenses are reasonable.

#### Information Provided

- 1. We have provided you with:
  - a. Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements such as records, documentation, and other matters.
  - b. Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
  - c. Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
  - d. Complete minutes of the meetings of the governing board and related committees, or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 2. There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 3. All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 4. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 5. We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the entity and involves:
  - a. Management;
  - b. Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
  - c. Others when the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 6. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others.
- 7. We have no knowledge of any instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with laws and regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements, or waste or abuse whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 8. We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- 9. There are no other material liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 10. We have disclosed to you the identity of the entity's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

- 11. The entity has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets, nor has any asset been pledged as collateral, except as made known to you and disclosed in the financial statements.
- 12. We are responsible for compliance with the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to Bradley University; and we have identified and disclosed to you all laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives.
- 13. We have complied with all restrictions on resources (including donor restrictions) and all aspects of contractual and grant agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance. This includes complying with donor requirements to maintain a specific asset composition necessary to satisfy their restrictions.
- 14. Bradley University is an exempt organization under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Any activities of which we are aware that would jeopardize the **entity's** tax-exempt status, and all activities subject to tax on unrelated business income or excise or other tax, have been disclosed to you. All required filings with tax authorities are up-to-date.
- 15. Our interpretation of the laws governing restrictions on net appreciation of donor-restricted endowments is based on the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act. Consequently, all unappropriated endowment fund earnings are considered with donor restrictions until authorized by the board or the spending rate policy.
- 16. We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the financial responsibility ratio supplemental schedule (the supplementary information) in accordance with U.S. GAAP, and we believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with U.S. GAAP. The methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. If the supplementary information is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date we issue the supplementary information and the **auditors'** report thereon.
- 17. In regards to the tax services and agreed upon procedures services performed by you, we have:
  - a. Made all management judgments and decisions and assumed all management responsibilities.
  - b. Designated an individual who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, and/or experience to understand and oversee the services.
  - c. Evaluated the adequacy and results of the services performed.
  - d. Accepted responsibility for the results of the services.

- e. Ensured that the **entity's** data and records are complete and received sufficient information to oversee the services.
- 18. We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.
- 19. We have identified to you any previous audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.

Signature: Swyl (ox 1848: SHEPACOX	Title: <u>Senior Vice President COO CFO</u>
Signature Wisch Wisch	Title: <u>Assistant VP of Financial Services</u>
Signature Kyan Sumidall NATERY 2008 Sehmidgall	Title: <u>Assistant Controller</u>