

FORVIS Report to the Board of Regents, Audit and Compliance Committee, and Management

University of Houston System Endowment Fund

Results of the 2023 Financial Statement Audit, Including Required Communications

August 31, 2023

Required Communications Regarding Our Audit Strategy & Approach (AU-C 260)

Overview & Responsibilities

Matter	Discussion
Scope of Our Audit	<p>This report covers audit results related to your financial statements and supplementary information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As of and for the year ended August 31, 2023• Conducted in accordance with our contract dated July 12, 2023
Our Responsibilities	<p>FORVIS is responsible for forming and expressing an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).</p>
Audit Scope & Inherent Limitations to Reasonable Assurance	<p>An audit performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) is designed to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about the financial statements. The scope of our audit tests was established in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole and did not include a detailed audit of all transactions.</p>
Extent of Our Communication	<p>In addition to areas of interest and noting prior communications made during other phases of the engagement, this report includes communications required in accordance with GAAS that are relevant to the responsibilities of those charged with governance in overseeing the financial reporting process, including audit approach, results, and internal control. The standards do not require the auditor to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to be communicated with those charged with governance.</p>
Independence	<p>The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, and our firm have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.</p>
Your Responsibilities	<p>Our audit does not relieve management or those charged with governance of your responsibilities. Your responsibilities and ours are further referenced in our contract.</p>



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Matter	Discussion
Distribution Restriction	<p>This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the following and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board of Regents, Audit and Compliance Committee, and Management • Others within the Entity

Qualitative Aspects of Significant Accounting Policies & Practices

Significant Accounting Policies

Significant accounting policies are described in Note 2 of the audited financial statements.

With respect to new accounting standards adopted during the year, we call to your attention the following topics detailed in the following pages:

- No matters are reportable.

Unusual Policies or Methods

With respect to significant unusual accounting policies or accounting methods used for significant unusual transactions (significant transactions outside the normal course of business or that otherwise appear to be unusual due to their timing, size, or nature), we noted the following:

- No matters are reportable.

Alternative Accounting Treatments

We had discussions with management regarding alternative accounting treatments within GAAP for policies and practices for material items, including recognition, measurement, and disclosure considerations related to the accounting for specific transactions as well as general accounting policies, as follows:

- No matters are reportable.

Management Judgments & Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of financial statement preparation by management, based on its judgments. Significant areas of such estimates for which we are prepared to discuss management's estimation process and our procedures for testing the reasonableness of those estimates include:

- Fair value of investments

Financial Statement Disclosures

The following area involves particularly sensitive financial statement disclosures for which we are prepared to discuss the issues involved and related judgments made in formulating those disclosures:

- Determination of fair values

Our Judgment About the Quality of the Entity's Accounting Principles

During the course of the audit, we made the following observations regarding the Entity's application of accounting principles:

- No matters are reportable.



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Adjustments Identified by Audit

During the course of any audit, an auditor may propose adjustments to financial statement amounts. Management evaluates our proposals and records those adjustments that, in its judgment, are required to prevent the financial statements from being materially misstated.

A misstatement is a difference between the amount, classification, presentation, or disclosure of a reported financial statement item and that which is required for the item to be presented fairly in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

Proposed & Recorded Adjustments

Auditor-proposed and management-recorded entries include the following:

- No matters are reportable.

Uncorrected Misstatements

- No uncorrected misstatements to report.

Other Required Communications

Other Material Communication

Listed below is another material communication between management and us related to the audit:

- Management representation letter (see Attachment)



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Attachments

Management Representation Letter

As a material communication with management, included herein is a copy of the representation letter provided by management at the conclusion of our engagement.



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Attachment A

Management Representation Letter

FORVIS

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Representation of:

University of Houston System Endowment Fund
Ezekiel W. Cullen Building
4302 University Drive, Room 10F
Houston, Texas 77024

Provided to:

FORVIS, LLP
Certified Public Accountants
2700 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1500
Houston, Texas 77056

The undersigned ("We") are providing this letter in connection with FORVIS' audits of our financial statements as of and for the years ended August 31, 2023 and 2022.

Our representations are current and effective as of the date of FORVIS' report: February 13, 2024.

Our engagement with FORVIS is based on our contract for services dated: July 12, 2023.

Our Responsibility & Consideration of Material Matters

We confirm that we are responsible for the fair presentation of the financial statements subject to FORVIS' report in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We are also responsible for adopting sound accounting policies; establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, operations, and compliance; and preventing and detecting fraud.

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. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

Confirmation of Matters Specific to the Subject Matter of FORVIS' Report

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following:

Broad Matters

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of our contract, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
2. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of:
 - a. Internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
 - b. Internal control to prevent and detect fraud.

3. 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 financial records and related data, 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. All minutes of the governing body meetings held through the date of this letter or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared. All unsigned copies of minutes provided to you are copies of our original minutes approved by the governing body, if applicable, and maintained as part of our records.
 - e. All significant contracts and grants.
4. We have responded fully and truthfully to all your inquiries.

Government Auditing Standards

5. We acknowledge that we are responsible for compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements.
6. We have identified and disclosed to you all laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that have a direct and material effect on the determination of amounts in our financial statements or other financial data significant to the audit objectives.
7. We have identified and disclosed to you any violations or possible violations of laws, regulations, including those pertaining to adopting, approving, and amending budgets, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for recognition and/or disclosure in the financial statements or for your reporting on noncompliance.
8. We have taken or will take timely and appropriate steps to remedy any fraud, abuse, illegal acts, or violations of provisions of contracts or grant agreements that you or other auditors report.
9. We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.
10. We have identified to you any previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies related to the objectives of your audit and the corrective actions taken to address any significant findings and recommendations made in such audits, attestation engagements, or other studies.

Misappropriation, Misstatements, & Fraud

11. We have informed you of all current risks of a material amount that are not adequately prevented or detected by our procedures with respect to:
 - a. Misappropriation of assets.
 - b. Misrepresented or misstated assets, liabilities, or net position.
12. We have no knowledge of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity involving:

- a. Management or employees who have significant roles in internal control over financial reporting, or
 - b. Others when the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
13. We understand that the term "fraud" includes misstatements arising from fraudulent financial reporting and misstatements arising from misappropriation of assets. Misstatements arising from fraudulent financial reporting are intentional misstatements, or omissions of amounts or disclosures in financial statements to deceive financial statement users. Misstatements arising from misappropriation of assets involve the theft of an entity's assets where the effect of the theft causes the financial statements not to be presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
 14. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity received in communications from employees, former employees, customers, analysts, SEC or other regulators, citizens, suppliers, or others.
 15. We have assessed the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud and disclosed to you any such risk identified.

Ongoing Operations

16. We acknowledge the current economic volatility presents difficult circumstances and challenges for our industry. Entities are potentially facing declines in the fair values of investments and other assets, declines in the volume of business, contributions, constraints on liquidity, difficulty obtaining financing or bonding, significant credit quality problems, including significant volatility in the values of real estate and other collateral supporting loans, etc. We understand the values of the assets and liabilities recorded in the financial statements could change rapidly, resulting in material future adjustments to asset values, allowances for accounts receivable, capital, etc., that could negatively impact the entity's ability to meet regulatory capital requirements or maintain sufficient liquidity.

We acknowledge that you have no responsibility for future changes caused by the current economic environment and the resulting impact on the entity's financial statements. Further, management and governance are solely responsible for all aspects of managing the entity.

Related Parties

17. We have disclosed to you the identity of all of the entity's related parties and all the related-party relationships of which we are aware.

In addition, we have disclosed to you all related-party transactions and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties of which we are aware, including any modifications during the year that were made to related-party transaction agreements which existed prior to the beginning of the year under audit, as well as new related-party transaction agreements that were executed during the year under audit.

Related-party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

18. We understand that the term related party refers to:
 - Affiliates
 - Management and members of their immediate families

- Any other party with which the entity may deal if one party can significantly influence the management or operating policies of the other to an extent that one of the transacting parties might be prevented from fully pursuing its own separate interests.

Another party is also a related party if it can significantly influence the management or operating policies of the transacting parties or if it has an ownership interest in one of the transacting parties and can significantly influence the other to an extent that one or more of the transacting parties might be prevented from fully pursuing its own separate interests.

The term affiliate refers to a party that directly or indirectly controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with, the entity.

Litigation, Laws, Rulings, & Regulations

19. We are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation or claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements. We have not sought or received attorney's services related to pending or threatened litigation or claims during or subsequent to the audit period. Also, we are not aware of any litigation or claims, pending or threatened, for which legal counsel should be sought.
20. We have no knowledge of communications, other than those specifically disclosed, from regulatory agencies, governmental representatives, employees, or others concerning investigations or allegations of noncompliance with laws and regulations, deficiencies in financial reporting practices, or other matters that could have a material adverse effect on the financial statements.

Financial Statements & Reports

21. With regard to supplementary information:
 - a. We acknowledge our responsibility for the presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria.
 - b. We believe the supplementary information is fairly presented, both in form and content, in accordance with the applicable criteria.
 - c. The methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information are unchanged 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.
 - d. We believe the significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and/or presentation of the supplementary information are reasonable and appropriate.

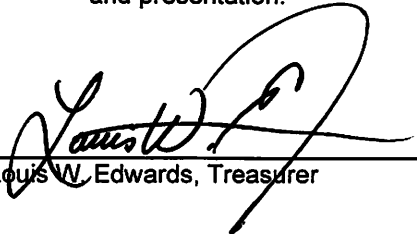
Transactions, Records, & Adjustments

22. All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
23. We have everything we need to keep our books and records.

24. We have disclosed any significant unusual transactions the entity has entered into during the period, including the nature, terms, and business purpose of those transactions.

Governmental Accounting & Disclosure Matters

25. With regard to deposit and investment activities:
- a. All deposit and investment transactions have been made in accordance with legal and contractual requirements.
 - b. Investments by endowments are properly valued.
 - c. Disclosures of deposit and investment balances and risks in the financial statements are consistent with our understanding of the applicable laws regarding enforceability of any pledges of collateral.
 - d. We understand that your audit does not represent an opinion regarding the enforceability of any collateral pledges
26. Components of net position (restricted and unrestricted) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
27. We have appropriately disclosed the entity's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position/fund balance is available and have determined that net position is properly recognized under the policy.
28. The entity's ability to continue as a going concern was evaluated and that appropriate disclosures are made in the financial statements as necessary under GASB requirements.
29. The supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, consisting of management's discussion and analysis, has been prepared and is measured and presented in conformity with the applicable GASB pronouncements, and we acknowledge our responsibility for the information. The information contained therein is based on all facts, decisions, and conditions currently known to us and is measured using the same methods and assumptions as were used in the preparation of the financial statements. We believe the significant assumptions underlying the measurement and/or presentation of the information are reasonable and appropriate. There has been no change from the preceding period in the methods of measurement and presentation.



Louis W. Edwards, Treasurer

Lavonda Luckett

Lavonda M. Luckett, Interim Executive Director
of Financial Reporting, University of Houston
System