



**Component Unit Financial Report**  
**For Fiscal Years Ended**  
**June 30, 2017 and 2016**



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

September 14, 2017

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Louisiana State Employees’ Retirement System  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

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We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Louisiana State Employees’ Retirement System (LASERS), a component unit of the State of Louisiana, as of and for the years ended June 30, 2017 and 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Louisiana State Employees’ Retirement System’s basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

**Management’s Responsibility 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; this includes 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.

**Auditor’s Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

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An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to LASERS's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 LASERS's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

## **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fiduciary net position of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System at June 30, 2017 and 2016, and the changes in fiduciary net position for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Emphasis of Matter**

As disclosed in Note F to the financial statements, the financial statements include investments that are not listed on national exchanges or for which quoted market prices are not available. These investments include private equities, absolute returns, global tactical asset allocations, and investments in real assets. Such investments totaled \$3.0 billion and \$3.0 billion (23.3% and 25.4% of total assets, respectively) at June 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Where a publicly listed price is not available, the management of LASERS uses alternative sources of information including audited financial statements, unaudited interim reports, independent appraisals, and similar evidence to determine the fair value of investments. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

As disclosed in Note A to the financial statements, the total pension liability for LASERS was \$18.8 billion and \$18.6 billion at June 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The actuarial valuations were based on various assumptions made by LASERS's actuary. Because actual experience may differ from the assumptions used in the actuarial valuation, there is a risk that the total pension liability at June 30, 2017 and 2016 could be understated or overstated.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and other required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information,

although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System's basic financial statements. The supporting schedules, as listed in the table of contents, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The supporting schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

#### **Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 14, 2017 on our consideration of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

***Duplantier, Hrapmann, Hogan & Maher, LLP***

New Orleans, Louisiana



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL  
OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND  
OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

September 14, 2017

To the Board of Trustees  
Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, a component unit of the State of Louisiana, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 14, 2017.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System's internal control over financial reporting to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System's internal control.

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A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

***Duplantier, Hrapmann, Hogan & Maher, LLP***

New Orleans, Louisiana

## Management's Discussion and Analysis

The following is management's discussion and analysis of the financial performance of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS or the System). This narrative overview and analysis helps to interpret the key elements of the financial statements, notes to the financial statements, required supplementary information, and supporting schedules for the current year. Readers are encouraged to consider the information presented here in conjunction with additional information provided in the Transmittal Letter of LASERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

### Financial Highlights

- Net position restricted for pensions increased by \$1.0 billion, or 9.6%.
- LASERS had a Net Pension Liability of \$7.0 billion and the Net Pension Liability as a percentage of covered payroll was 386.3% as of June 30, 2017.
- Net investment income experienced a gain of \$1.5 billion for 2017 compared to a loss of \$296.7 million for 2016.
- Total contributions decreased by \$56.1 million or 6.4% to \$825.5 million in 2017.
- Benefit payments increased by \$35.9 million or 2.9% to \$1.3 billion in 2017.
- Refund and transfer payments of member contributions increased by \$1.6 million or 4.5% to \$37.6 million in 2017.

### Overview of the Financial Statements

The System's basic financial statements were prepared in conformity with GASB Statement No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans* and include the following: (1) statements of fiduciary net position, (2) statements of changes in fiduciary net position, (3) notes to the financial statements, and (4) required supplementary information.

*The Statements of Fiduciary Net Position* report the System's assets, liabilities, and resultant net position restricted for pensions. They disclose the financial position of the System as of June 30, 2017, and 2016, respectively.

*The Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position* report the results of the System's operations during years 2017 and 2016 disclosing the additions to and deductions from the fiduciary net position. They support the change that has occurred to the prior year's net position on the statement of fiduciary net position.

*Notes to the Financial Statements* provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the financial statements.

- Note A provides a general description of LASERS organization, employer and membership participation, net pension liability of employers, actuarial methods and assumptions, eligibility, benefits, and the optional retirement plan.
- Note B provides a summary of significant accounting policies and plan position matters including the basis of accounting, securities lending, estimates, methods used to value investments, property and equipment, and accumulated leave.
- Note C provides information regarding member and employer contribution requirements.
- Note D categorizes LASERS investments by fair value measurements, the level of fair value hierarchy, and valuation techniques established by generally accepted accounting principles. It also discloses information regarding certain investments that calculate net asset value per share and provides a description of related asset classes.
- Note E describes LASERS deposits and investment risk disclosures, which include custodial credit risk, concentration of credit risk, credit risk, interest rate risk, and foreign currency risk.
- Note F describes the System's cash and investments, and includes information regarding bank balances, investments including the investment policy and rate of return, domestic equity, international equity, domestic core fixed income, global fixed income, emerging market debt, derivatives, alternative investments, global tactical asset allocation, and global multi-sector fixed income.
- Note G provides information regarding the securities lending program.
- Note H provides information on other postemployment benefits.

*Required Supplementary Information* consists of four schedules and related notes concerning changes in net pension liability, employers' net pension liability, employer contributions, and the money-weighted rate of investment returns. It also includes the schedule of funding progress for the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB).

The *Supporting Schedules* section includes the schedules of administrative expenses, investment expenses, board compensation, and payments to consultants.

## **Financial Analysis**

LASERS financial position is measured in several ways. One way is to determine the fiduciary net position (difference between total assets and total liabilities) available to pay benefits. Over time, increases and decreases in the LASERS fiduciary net position indicates whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. Other factors, such as financial market conditions, should also be taken into consideration when measuring LASERS overall health.

The following table illustrates a condensed version of LASERS Statements of Fiduciary Net Position for fiscal years ending 2017, 2016, and 2015. LASERS fiduciary net position as of June 30, 2017 and 2016, totaled \$11,753,275,850 and \$10,723,714,826, respectively. All of the fiduciary net position is available to meet LASERS ongoing obligations to members, retirees, and beneficiaries.

## Condensed Comparative Statements of Fiduciary Net Position

	2017	2016	2015
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 197,912,884	\$ 52,222,180	\$ 72,437,860
Receivables	158,166,249	155,555,181	146,264,465
Investments	11,491,499,206	10,639,102,179	11,290,757,431
Securities Lending Cash Collateral Held	1,239,682,923	1,141,629,464	1,063,660,300
Capital Assets	3,855,740	4,331,820	4,304,276
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 13,091,117,002</b>	<b>\$ 11,992,840,824</b>	<b>\$ 12,577,424,332</b>
Accounts Payable & Other Liabilities	98,268,951	126,855,228	97,419,486
Securities Lending Obligations	1,239,572,201	1,142,270,770	1,064,853,920
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 1,337,841,152</b>	<b>\$ 1,269,125,998</b>	<b>\$ 1,162,273,406</b>
 <b>Net Position Restricted for Pensions</b>	 <b>\$ 11,753,275,850</b>	 <b>\$ 10,723,714,826</b>	 <b>\$ 11,415,150,926</b>

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, fiduciary net position was approximately \$11.8 billion. This reflected an increase of approximately 9.6% or \$1,029,561,024 from the previous fiscal year-end. Cash and cash equivalents increased approximately 279% or \$145,690,704 from June 30, 2016 due to the replacement of a repurchase sweep account with an interest bearing demand deposit account for cash balances held at LASERS operating bank. In the one-year period from June 30, 2015 to June 30, 2016, LASERS fiduciary net position decreased approximately 6.1% or \$691,436,100. These changes were a direct result of volatility in the financial markets during those periods.

LASERS maintains its commitment to a broadly diversified portfolio. Carefully underwritten and conservative assumptions for future expected returns have been adopted, and the investment portfolio is structured to optimize the risk-return trade-off. This is done in part by reviewing the Plan's asset allocation. LASERS continues to believe that it is well positioned to meet its long-term goals.

## Condensed Comparative Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position

	2017	2016	2015
<b>Additions</b>			
Employer Contributions	\$ 675,584,000	\$ 729,397,233	\$ 726,678,134
Employee Contributions	149,931,242	152,233,771	153,281,097
Net Investment Income (Loss)	1,520,600,699	(296,729,232)	152,809,130
Other Income	14,049,005	15,185,502	12,928,989
Total Additions	<u>2,360,164,946</u>	<u>600,087,274</u>	<u>1,045,697,350</u>
<b>Deductions</b>			
Retirement Benefits	1,274,461,022	1,238,507,932	1,199,079,252
Refunds and Transfers of Contributions	37,606,040	35,997,261	38,308,757
Administrative Expenses	17,074,984	15,615,605	15,877,682
Other Postemployment Benefits Expenses	904,975	982,858	940,845
Depreciation and Amortization Expenses	556,901	419,718	1,193,314
Total Deductions	<u>1,330,603,922</u>	<u>1,291,523,374</u>	<u>1,255,399,850</u>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Position</b>	<b><u>1,029,561,024</u></b>	<b><u>(691,436,100)</u></b>	<b><u>(209,702,500)</u></b>
<b>Net Position Restricted for Pensions</b>			
Beginning of Year	<u>10,723,714,826</u>	<u>11,415,150,926</u>	<u>11,624,853,426</u>
End of Year	<u><u>\$ 11,753,275,850</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 10,723,714,826</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 11,415,150,926</u></u>

### Additions to Fiduciary Net Position

The revenues needed to finance retirement benefits are accumulated primarily through the collection of employer and employee contributions and earnings on investments. Revenue for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017 totaled \$2,360,164,946. The revenue consisted of employer and employee contributions totaling \$825,515,242, a net investment gain of \$1,520,600,699 and other income of \$14,049,005. Improvements in the financial markets are the primary reason for the increase in Fiduciary Net Position for the fiscal years presented. Our investment portfolio in 2017 completed the current year with a rate of return on investment assets of 15.8%. The plan earned an annualized return of 4.7% for the three-year period, 9.0% for the five-year period, 9.7% for the seven-year period, and 5.6% for the ten-year period. LASERS compares itself against other public pension plans with fair values greater than \$1 billion in the Trust Universe Comparison Service (TUCS), with a focus on long-term results. As of August 22, 2017 in extended time periods, LASERS ranked at the median for both the seven and ten-year periods while our one-year ranking places LASERS in the top third percentile among other similar sized public pensions. The net result was an increase of 612.5% or \$1,817,329,931 in investment earnings over 2016.

During 2017, combined employer and employee contribution income decreased from 2016 by \$56,115,762. Employer contributions based on covered payroll decreased \$53,813,233, or 7.4%, and member contributions decreased \$2,302,529, or 1.5%. The decrease in employer contributions was primarily a result of a decrease in the employer contribution rate, a decrease in covered payroll, and a reduction in income from legislative acts.

At June 30, 2016, total revenues decreased by 42.6% or \$445,610,076 over fiscal year 2015. The decreased revenue was due primarily to net investment income decreasing 294.2% from 2015. Combined

contributions increased 0.2% and other income increased 17.5%. Our investment portfolio completed the fiscal year with a negative rate of return on investment assets of 2.4%.

### **Deductions from Plan Assets**

LASERS was created to provide lifetime retirement, survivor, and disability benefits to qualified LASERS members. The cost of such programs includes recurring benefit payments, refund of contributions to employees who left the System, and the cost of administering LASERS.

Deductions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, totaled \$1,330,603,922, an increase of approximately 3.0% over June 30, 2016. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, deductions were \$1,291,523,374, an increase of about 2.9% over June 30, 2015. The increase in deductions for fiscal year ended 2017 and 2016 is primarily a result of an increase in benefits. Benefits paid in 2017, 2016, and 2015 increased because of the increase in the number of retirees and the average benefit resulting from the higher average salary history of the newer retirees.

Administrative expenses increased by \$1,459,379 or 9.3% for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. This is primarily attributable to increases in professional services associated with the upgrade of LASERS enterprise content management system. In 2016, administrative expenses decreased \$262,077 or 1.7% over fiscal year ended 2015. The decrease was primarily a result of a decrease in professional services. Details of administrative expense activity can be found in the *Schedules of Administrative Expenses* located under Supporting Schedules.

Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) expenses decreased \$77,883 or 7.9% for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017 compared to June 30, 2016. In 2016, OPEB expenses increased \$42,013 over fiscal year ended 2015. These amounts are based on adjusted calculations by the administrators of OPEB for the State.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased 32.7% for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, compared to a 64.8% decrease for 2016 over 2015. The increase in 2017 compared to 2016 can be attributed to an increase in depreciable assets resulting from the upgrade of LASERS enterprise content management system.

Total additions less total deductions resulted in a net increase in fiduciary net position of \$1,029,561,024 in 2017, compared to a decrease of \$691,436,100 in 2016. The net result is a 9.6% increase in 2017 compared to a 6.1% decrease in fiduciary net position restricted for pensions in 2016.

### **Requests for Information**

This Financial Report is designed to provide a general overview of the System's finances. For questions concerning any information in this report, or for additional information contact the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, Attention: Fiscal Division, P. O. Box 44213, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4213.

# Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System

## Statements of Fiduciary Net Position

June 30, 2017 and 2016

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 197,912,884	\$ 52,222,180
Receivables:		
Employer Contributions	51,124,990	52,207,314
Member Contributions	11,707,938	11,761,522
Interest and Dividends	33,069,103	29,468,573
Investment Proceeds	58,768,705	57,377,415
Other	3,495,513	4,740,357
Total Receivables	<u>158,166,249</u>	<u>155,555,181</u>
Investments:		
Investments at Fair Value		
Short-Term Investments - Domestic/International	142,663,861	317,630,817
Bonds/Fixed Income - Domestic	888,587,180	821,192,202
Bonds/Fixed Income - International	447,375,296	343,290,464
Equity Securities - Domestic	2,666,613,896	2,432,754,709
Equity Securities - International	3,798,051,961	3,202,542,903
Global Tactical Asset Allocation	738,813,292	739,740,674
Alternative Investments	2,309,230,254	2,300,919,166
Total Investments at Fair Value	<u>10,991,335,740</u>	<u>10,158,070,935</u>
Investments at Contract Value		
Synthetic Guaranteed Investment Contract	500,163,466	481,031,244
Total Investments at Contract Value	<u>500,163,466</u>	<u>481,031,244</u>
Total Investments	<u>11,491,499,206</u>	<u>10,639,102,179</u>
Securities Lending Cash Collateral Held	1,239,682,923	1,141,629,464
Capital Assets (at cost) - Net:		
Property and Equipment	3,855,740	4,331,820
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><b>13,091,117,002</b></u>	<u><b>11,992,840,824</b></u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Payables:		
Investment Commitments	71,559,552	100,377,832
Trade Payables and Other Accrued Liabilities	26,709,399	26,477,396
Total Payables	<u>98,268,951</u>	<u>126,855,228</u>
Securities Lending Obligations	1,239,572,201	1,142,270,770
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u><b>1,337,841,152</b></u>	<u><b>1,269,125,998</b></u>
<b>Net Position Restricted for Pensions</b>	<u><b>\$ 11,753,275,850</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 10,723,714,826</b></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

# Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System

## Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position

For the Period Ended June 30, 2017 and 2016

	2017	2016
<b>Additions (Reductions)</b>		
Contributions:		
Employer Contributions	\$ 675,583,750	\$ 718,606,512
Employee Contributions	149,931,242	152,233,771
Legislative Acts Income	250	10,790,721
Total Contributions	825,515,242	881,631,004
Investment Income:		
<i>From Investment Activities</i>		
Net Appreciation (Depreciation) in Fair Value of Investments	1,106,494,316	(447,804,105)
Interest & Dividends	206,280,992	199,255,838
Alternative Investment Income	275,154,150	12,506,137
Miscellaneous Investment Income	1,834,474	1,306,991
Total Investment Income (Loss)	1,589,763,932	(234,735,139)
<i>Investment Activity Expenses</i>		
Alternative Investment Expenses	(45,917,036)	(40,719,231)
Investment Management Expenses	(29,610,839)	(26,503,606)
Total Investment Expenses	(75,527,875)	(67,222,837)
Net Income (Loss) from Investing Activities	1,514,236,057	(301,957,976)
<i>From Securities Lending Activities</i>		
Securities Lending Income	11,156,332	6,314,549
Securities Lending Expenses	(4,791,690)	(1,085,805)
Net Income from Securities Lending Activities	6,364,642	5,228,744
Total Net Investment Income (Loss)	1,520,600,699	(296,729,232)
Other Operating Income	14,049,005	15,185,502
Total Additions	2,360,164,946	600,087,274
<b>Deductions</b>		
Retirement Benefits	1,274,461,022	1,238,507,932
Refunds and Transfers of Member Contributions	37,606,040	35,997,261
Administrative Expenses	17,074,984	15,615,605
Other Postemployment Benefits Expenses	904,975	982,858
Depreciation and Amortization Expenses	556,901	419,718
Total Deductions	1,330,603,922	1,291,523,374
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Position</b>	<b>1,029,561,024</b>	<b>(691,436,100)</b>
<b>Net Position Restricted for Pensions</b>		
Beginning of Period	10,723,714,826	11,415,150,926
End of Period	<u>\$ 11,753,275,850</u>	<u>\$ 10,723,714,826</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

# Notes to Financial Statements

## A. Plan Description

### 1. General Organization

The Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS or the System) is the administrator of a cost-sharing multi-employer defined benefit pension plan, and is a component unit of the State of Louisiana included in the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) as a pension trust fund. The System was established by Section 401 of Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S. 11:401).

In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes, the System is subject to certain elements of oversight:

- The House and Senate Committees on Retirement review administration, benefits, investments, and funding of the public retirement systems.
- The operating budget of the System is subject to budgetary review and approval by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.
- The Legislative Auditor is responsible for the procurement of audits for the public retirement systems, and is authorized to contract with a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) for each audit.
- Actuarial calculations and results are reviewed by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee (PRSAC) annually.
- A thirteen-member Board of Trustees, comprised of six active members, three retired members and four ex-officio members, governs the System. The Board administers the programs and appoints key management personnel including the Executive Director, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Administrative Officer, and the Chief Investment Officer.

### 2. Plan Membership

The System is one of several public retirement systems in Louisiana. Each system has specific membership requirements established by legislation, with LASERS established for state officers, employees, and their beneficiaries. Other public employers report members who retained membership in LASERS upon transfer to other public systems or as provided by specific legislation. A summary of government employers and members participating in LASERS at June 30, 2017, and 2016, are as follows:

Type of Employer	2017		2016	
	Active Employers	Active Members	Active Employers	Active Members
State Agencies	207	38,756	210	39,001
Other Public Employers	138	299	141	283
<b>Total</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>39,055</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>39,284</b>

Type of Active Members	2017 Member Count	2016 Member Count
Active After DROP	1,618	1,650
Alcohol and Tobacco Control	12	12
Appellate Law Clerks	130	143
Bridge Police	5	5
Corrections	1,893	2,132
Harbor Police	27	32
Hazardous Duty	2,624	2,440
Judges	309	307
Legislators	7	8
Peace Officers	51	57
Regular State Employees	32,222	32,338
Wildlife Agents	157	160
<b>Total Active Members</b>	<b>39,055</b>	<b>39,284</b>

At June 30, 2017, and 2016, membership consisted of:

	2017	2016
Active Members	39,055	39,284
Regular Retirees*	40,482	39,998
Disability Retirees*	2,325	2,401
Survivors	5,872	5,802
Vested & Reciprocal	3,794	3,865
Inactive Members Due Refunds	53,573	52,837
DROP Participants	1,520	1,609
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>146,621</b>	<b>145,796</b>

\*For actuarial purposes "Disability Retirees" includes members who have reached normal retirement eligibility requirements and converted to Regular Retirement and are therefore counted by LASERS as "Regular Retirees".

### 3. Net Pension Liability of Employers

The net pension liability was measured as the portion of the present value of projected benefit payments to be provided through the pension plan to current active and inactive employees that is attributed to those employees' past periods of service, less the amount of the pension plan's fiduciary net position.

The components of the net pension liability of the System's employers determined in accordance with GASB No. 67 as of June 30, 2017 and 2016 were as follows:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Total Pension Liability	\$ 18,792,105,561	\$ 18,576,266,623
Plan Fiduciary Net Position	<u>11,753,275,850</u>	<u>10,723,714,826</u>
Employers' Net Pension Liability	\$ 7,038,829,711	\$ 7,852,551,797

Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total Pension Liability	62.5%	57.7%
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Actuarial valuations involve estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment mortality and future salary increases. Actuarially determined amounts regarding the net pension liability are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared to past expectations, and new estimates are made about the future. The last experience study was performed in 2013 and was based on the experience of the System for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013. The required Schedules of Employers' Net Pension Liability located in Required Supplementary Information following the *Notes to the Financial Statements* presents multi-year trend information regarding whether the plan fiduciary net positions are increasing or decreasing over time relative to the total pension liability. The Total Pension Liability as of June 30, 2017 and 2016 is based on actuarial valuations for the same periods, updated using generally accepted actuarial procedures.

### 4. Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used as of the June 30, 2017 and 2016, actuarial valuations are as follows:

<b>Valuation Date</b>	June 30, 2017 and 2016
<b>Actuarial Cost Method</b>	Entry Age Normal
<b>Actuarial Assumptions:</b>	
<b>Expected Remaining Service Lives</b>	3 years
<b>Investment Rate of Return</b>	7.70% and 7.75% per annum for 2017 and 2016, respectively.
<b>Inflation Rate</b>	2.75% and 3.0% per annum for 2017 and 2016, respectively.
<b>Mortality</b>	<b>Non-disabled members</b> - Mortality rates based on the RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table with mortality improvement projected to 2015.

**Disabled members** – Mortality rates based on the RP-2000 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table, with no projection for mortality improvement.

**Termination, Disability, and Retirement**

Termination, disability, and retirement assumptions were projected based on a five-year (2009-2013) experience study of the System's members.

**Salary Increases**

Salary increases were projected based on a 2009-2013 experience study of the System's members. The salary increase ranges for specific types of members are:

<u>Member Type</u>	<u>Lower Range</u>	<u>Upper Range</u>
Regular	3.8%	12.8%
Judges	2.8%	5.3%
Corrections	3.4%	14.3%
Hazardous Duty	3.4%	14.3%
Wildlife	3.4%	14.3%

**Cost of Living Adjustments**

The present value of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently being paid by the System and includes previously granted cost of living increases. The projected benefit payments do not include provisions for potential future increases not yet authorized by the Board of Trustees as they were deemed not to be substantively automatic.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimates ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The expected rate of inflation was 3.25% for 2017 and 2016. The resulting expected long-term rates of return are 8.69% for 2017 and 8.72% for 2016. Best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class included in the System's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2017 and 2016 are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Cash	-0.24%	-0.24%
Domestic Equity	4.31%	4.31%
International Equity	5.35%	5.48%
Domestic Fixed Income	1.73%	1.63%
International Fixed Income	2.49%	2.47%
Alternative Investments	7.41%	7.42%
Global Tactical Asset Allocation	2.84%	2.92%
Total Fund	5.26%	5.30%

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.70% and 7.75% for June 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from participating employers will be made at the actuarially determined rates approved by PRSAC taking into consideration the recommendation of the System’s actuary. Based on those assumptions, the System’s fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

In accordance with GASB 67, regarding the disclosure of the sensitivity of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate, the following presents the net pension liability of the participating employers calculated using the discount rate of 7.70% and 7.75% for June 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively, as well as what the employers’ net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rate.

### Changes in Discount Rate

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
<b>2016 Discount Rate</b>	<b>6.75%</b>	<b>7.75%</b>	<b>8.75%</b>
<b>2016 Employer Net Pension Liability</b>	\$ 9,647,586,676	\$ 7,852,551,797	\$ 6,327,334,933
<b>2017 Discount Rate</b>	<b>6.70%</b>	<b>7.70%</b>	<b>8.70%</b>
<b>2017 Employer Net Pension Liability</b>	\$ 8,836,452,507	\$ 7,038,829,711	\$ 5,510,424,373

#### 5. Eligibility Requirements

All state employees, except those specifically excluded by statute, become members of the System’s Defined Benefit Plan (DBP) as a condition of employment, unless they elect to continue as a contributing member in any other retirement system for which they remain eligible for membership. Certain elected officials and officials appointed by the Governor may, at their option, become members of LASERS. Also, qualifying unclassified state employees may have made an irrevocable election to participate in the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) between July 12, 1999 and December 7, 2007, when the plan closed. All plans are considered one pension plan for financial reporting purposes. All assets accumulated for the payment of benefits may legally be used to pay benefits to any plan members or beneficiaries.

#### 6. Retirement

The age and years of creditable service required in order for a member to retire with full benefits are established by statute, and vary depending on the member's hire date, employer, and job classification. Our rank and file members hired prior to July 1, 2006, may either retire with full benefits at any age upon completing 30 years of creditable service and at age 60 upon completing ten years of creditable service depending on their plan. Those members hired between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2015, may retire at age 60 upon completing five years of creditable service and those hired on or after July 1, 2015 may retire at age 62 upon completing five years of creditable service. The basic annual retirement benefit for members is equal to 2.5% to 3.5% of average compensation

multiplied by the number of years of creditable service. Additionally, members may choose to retire with 20 years of service at any age, with an actuarially reduced benefit.

Average compensation is defined as the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 36 consecutive months of employment for members employed prior to July 1, 2006. For members hired July 1, 2006 or later, average compensation is based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment. The maximum annual retirement benefit cannot exceed the lesser of 100% of average compensation or a certain specified dollar amount of actuarially determined monetary limits, which vary depending upon the member's age at retirement. Judges, court officers, and certain elected officials receive an additional annual retirement benefit equal to 1.0% of average compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service in their respective capacity. As an alternative to the basic retirement benefits, a member may elect to receive their retirement throughout their life, with certain benefits being paid to their designated beneficiary after their death.

Act 992 of the 2010 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session changed the benefit structure for LASERS members hired on or after January 1, 2011. This resulted in three new plans: regular, hazardous duty, and judges. The new regular plan includes regular members and those members who were formerly eligible to participate in specialty plans, excluding hazardous duty and judges. Regular members and judges are eligible to retire at age 60 after five years of creditable service and, may also retire at any age, with a reduced benefit, after 20 years of creditable service. Hazardous duty members are eligible to retire with twelve years of creditable service at age 55, 25 years of creditable service at any age or with a reduced benefit after 20 years of creditable service. Average compensation will be based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment for all three new plans. Members in the regular plan will receive a 2.5% accrual rate, hazardous duty plan a 3.33% accrual rate, and judges a 3.5% accrual rate. The extra 1.0% accrual rate for each year of service for court officers, the governor, lieutenant governor, legislators, House clerk, sergeants at arms, or Senate secretary, employed after January 1, 2011, was eliminated by Act 992. Specialty plan and regular members, hired prior to January 1, 2011, who are hazardous duty employees have the option to transition to the new hazardous duty plan.

Act 226 of the 2014 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session established new retirement eligibility for members of LASERS hired on or after July 1, 2015, excluding hazardous duty plan members. Regular members and judges under the new plan are eligible to retire at age 62 after five years of creditable service and, may also retire at any age, with a reduced benefit, after 20 years of creditable service. Average compensation will be based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment. Members in the regular plan will receive a 2.5% accrual rate, and judges a 3.5% accrual rate, with the extra 1.0% accrual rate based on all years of service as a judge.

Members of the Harbor Police Retirement System who were members prior to July 1, 2014, may retire after 25 years of creditable service at any age, 12 years of creditable service at age 55, 20 years of creditable service at age 45, and 10 years of creditable service at age 60. Average compensation for the plan is the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 36 consecutive months of employment, with a 3.33% accrual rate.

A member leaving employment before attaining minimum retirement age, but after completing certain minimum service requirements, becomes eligible for a benefit provided the member lives to

the minimum service retirement age, and does not withdraw their accumulated contributions. The minimum service requirement for benefits varies depending upon the member's employer and service classification.

## **7. Deferred Benefits**

The State Legislature authorized LASERS to establish a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). When a member enters DROP, their status changes from active member to retiree even though they continue to work and draw their salary for a period of up to three years. The election is irrevocable once participation begins. During DROP participation, accumulated retirement benefits that would have been paid to each retiree are separately tracked. For members who entered DROP prior to January 1, 2004, interest at a rate of one-half percent less than the System's realized return on its portfolio (not to be less than zero) will be credited to the retiree after participation ends. At that time, the member must choose among available alternatives for the distribution of benefits that have accumulated in the DROP account. Members who enter DROP on or after January 1, 2004, are required to participate in LASERS Self-Directed Plan (SDP) which is administered by a third-party provider. The SDP allows DROP participants to choose from a menu of investment options for the allocation of their DROP balances. Participants may diversify their investments by choosing from an approved list of mutual funds with different holdings, management styles, and risk factors.

Members eligible to retire and who do not choose to participate in DROP may elect to receive at the time of retirement an initial benefit option (IBO) in an amount up to 36 months of benefits, with an actuarial reduction of their future benefits. For members who selected the IBO option prior to January 1, 2004, such amount may be withdrawn or remain in the IBO account earning interest at a rate of one-half percent less than the System's realized return on its portfolio (not to be less than zero). Those members who select the IBO on or after January 1, 2004, are required to enter the SDP as described above.

For members who are in the Harbor Police Plan, the annual DROP Interest Rate is the three year average (calculated as the compound average of 36 months) investment return of the plan assets for the period ending the June 30th immediately preceding that given date. The average rate so determined is to be reduced by a "contingency" adjustment of 0.5%, but not to below zero. DROP interest is forfeited if member does not cease employment after DROP participation.

The DROP/IBO Reserve consists of the reserves for all members who select the DROP or IBO upon retirement. The balance in the DROP/IBO Reserve as of June 30, 2017 and 2016 was \$1,069,402,732 and \$1,037,139,136, respectively.

## **8. Disability Benefits**

All members with ten or more years of credited service who become disabled may receive a maximum disability retirement benefit equivalent to the regular retirement formula without reduction by reason of age.

Upon reaching age 60, the disability retiree may receive a regular retirement benefit by making application to the Board of Trustees.

For injuries sustained in the line of duty, hazardous duty personnel in the Hazardous Duty Services Plan will receive a disability benefit equal to 75% of final average compensation.

Members of the Harbor Police Retirement System who become disabled may receive a non-line of duty disability benefit after five years or more of credited service. Members age 55 or older may receive a disability benefit equivalent to the regular retirement benefit. Under age 55, the disability benefit is equal to 40% of final average compensation. Line of duty disability benefits are equal to 60% of final average compensation, regardless of years of credited service. If the disability benefit retiree is permanently confined to a wheelchair, or, is an amputee incapable of serving as a law enforcement officer, or the benefit is permanently legally binding, there is no reduction to the benefit if the retiree becomes gainfully employed.

## **9. Survivor's Benefits**

Certain eligible surviving dependents receive benefits based on the deceased member's compensation and their relationship to the deceased. The deceased Regular member hired before January 1, 2011 who was in state service at the time of death must have a minimum of five years of service credit, at least two of which were earned immediately prior to death, or who had a minimum of twenty years of service credit regardless of when earned in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor or handicapped child. Benefits are payable to an unmarried child until age 18, or age 23 if the child remains a full-time student. The aforementioned minimum service credit requirement is ten years for a surviving spouse with no minor children, and benefits are to be paid for life to the spouse or qualified handicapped child.

The deceased regular member hired on or after January 1, 2011, must have a minimum of five years of service credit regardless of when earned in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor child. The aforementioned minimum service credit requirements for a surviving spouse are 10 years, 2 years being earned immediately prior to death, and active state service at the time of death, or a minimum of 20 years of service credit regardless of when earned. A deceased member's spouse must have been married for at least one year before death.

Non-line of duty survivor benefits of the Harbor Police Retirement System may be received after a minimum of five years of credited service. Survivor benefits paid to a surviving spouse without children are equal to 40% of final average compensation, and cease upon remarriage. Surviving spouse with children under 18 benefits are equal to 60% of final average compensation, and cease upon remarriage, and children turning 18. No minimum service credit is required for line of duty survivor benefits which are equal to 60% of final average compensation to surviving spouse, regardless of children. Line of duty survivor benefits cease upon remarriage, and then benefit is paid to children under 18.

## **10. Permanent Benefit Increases/Cost-of-Living Adjustments**

As fully described in Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, the System allows for the payment of permanent benefit increases, also known as cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs), that are funded through investment earnings when recommended by the Board of Trustees and approved by the State Legislature.

The Experience Account Reserve is used to fund permanent benefit increases for retirees. The benefit increase granted must be funded at 100% of the actuarial cost. The account accumulates 50% of the excess investment gain relative to the actuarial valuation rate of 7.70% after such excess return exceeded \$100,000,000 (indexed to positive changes in the actuarial value of assets beginning June 30, 2015).

If the System is at least 80% funded, the balance of the Experience Account maintains a reserve for two permanent benefit increases. However, if the System is less than 80% funded, the reserve is restricted to one permanent benefit increase, based on the current allowable percentage granted for the permanent benefit increase. Excess investment gains that would have otherwise gone to the Experience Account, if not for the restrictions, will be applied to the System’s net pension liability. Beginning June 30, 2016, allocations to the Experience Account will be amortized over ten years. At June 30, 2017 and 2016, the balance of the Experience Account Reserve was \$10,455,340 and \$9,714,942, respectively.

## 11. Optional Retirement Plan

In 1999, an Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) was established as a defined contribution component of LASERS for certain unclassified employees who otherwise would have been eligible to become members of the defined benefit plan. The ORP provides portability of assets and full and immediate vesting of all contributions submitted on behalf of members. The ORP is administered by a third-party provider with oversight from LASERS Board of Trustees. Monthly employer and employee contributions are invested as directed by the member to provide the member with future retirement benefits. The amount of these benefits is entirely dependent upon the total contributions and investment returns accumulated during the member’s working lifetime. ORP balances are held by the provider in each participant’s name. These balances are included in LASERS total investments on the Statements of Fiduciary Net Position. The ORP was closed to new members on December 7, 2007. However, members in the ORP as of December 31, 2007 were granted the option by Act 718 of the 2012 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session to regain membership in the defined benefit plan. At June 30, 2017, and 2016, membership consisted of:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<b>Number of Members</b>	57	60
<b>Employee Contributions</b>	\$105,508	\$114,967
<b>Employer Contributions</b>	\$495,047	\$559,314

The ORP Reserve consists of reserves for all members who elected to participate in the ORP, and is credited with contributions made by the employee and the normal employer matching contributions for services rendered. When a member terminates his service, or upon his death before qualifying for a benefit, the refund of his contributions is made from this reserve. Also, when a member retires, his benefits are paid from this reserve. The balance of the ORP Reserve as of June 30, 2017 and 2016 was \$5,554,671 and \$5,617,170, respectively.

## B. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### 1. Basis of Accounting

LASERS financial statements are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they are earned, and expenses are recognized in the period incurred. Investment purchases and sales are recorded as of their trade date. State General Fund appropriations are recognized in the period when they are appropriated. Employer and member contributions are recognized when due, pursuant to formal commitments, as well as

statutory or contractual requirements. Administrative expenses are funded through contributions to the plan from members, the State of Louisiana, and cumulative investment earnings, and are subject to budgetary control of the Board of Trustees and the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the System.

## **2. Securities Lending**

The System records collateral received under its securities lending agreement where the System has the ability to spend, pledge, or sell the collateral without borrower default. Liabilities resulting from these transactions are also reported. The security lending cash collateral pools are reported at the market value of the underlying securities. Security lending income and expenses are reported as investment income and expenses in the accompanying financial statements. The Statements of Fiduciary Net Position do not include detailed holdings of securities lending collateral by investment classification.

## **3. Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America 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 additions to and deductions from fiduciary net position during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The retirement system utilizes various investment instruments, which, by nature, are exposed to a variety of risk levels and risk types, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term, and those changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the Statements of Fiduciary Net Position.

## **4. Method Used to Value Investments**

GASB Statement No. 72 (GASB 72) was implemented for fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. As required by GASB 72, investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is described as an exit price. This statement requires a government to use valuation techniques that are appropriate under the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure fair value. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. This statement establishes a hierarchy of inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. That hierarchy has three levels. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Level 2 inputs are inputs—other than quoted prices—included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, whether directly or indirectly. Finally, Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs, such as management’s assumption of the default rate among underlying mortgages of a mortgage-backed security. This statement requires disclosures to be made about fair value measurements, the level of fair value hierarchy, and valuation techniques. These disclosures are organized by type of asset or liability. GASB 72 also requires additional disclosures regarding investments in certain entities that calculate net asset value per share (or its equivalent). These disclosures are located in Note D.

Short-term investments are reported at market value when published prices are available, or at cost, which approximates fair value. Securities traded on a national or international exchange are

valued at the last reported sales price at the current exchange rate. All derivative financial instruments are reported at fair value in the Statements of Fiduciary Net Position with valuation changes recognized in income. Gains and losses are reported in the Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position as net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments during the period the instruments are held, and when the instruments are sold or expire. The nature and use of derivative instruments is discussed in *Note F. Cash and Investments (10)*. The fair value of investments that are organized as limited partnerships and have no readily ascertainable fair value (such as private equity, real estate, and tangible assets) has been recorded based on the investment's capital account balance which is reported at fair value, at the closest available reporting period, adjusted for subsequent contributions, distributions, and management fees. Because of the inherent uncertainties in estimating fair values, it is at least reasonably possible that the estimates will change in the near term. Investments that do not have an established market are reported at estimated fair value. Unrealized gains and losses are included as investment earnings in the Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position. Synthetic Guaranteed Investment Contracts are carried at contract value as required by GASB 53.

## **5. Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment and computer software are reported at historical cost. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method based upon useful lives of 40 years for building, 3 to 15 years for equipment and furniture, and 7 years for computer software. The capitalization thresholds of property and equipment are:

- Computer Software Developed or Modified Internally (reported as Intangible Assets): \$1,000,000
- Movable Property and Equipment: \$5,000

LASERS is a 50% co-owner of the Louisiana Retirement Systems Building and related land with the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana. LASERS interest in the building and land is reflected in the following schedules.

## Changes in Property and Equipment For Period Ending June 30, 2017

	June 30, 2016	Additions	Deletions/ Transfers	June 30, 2017
<b>Asset Class (at Cost)</b>				
Land	\$ 858,390	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 858,390
Building	6,170,610	-	-	6,170,610
Furniture, Equipment, and Vehicles	3,132,331	292,471	(710,056)	2,714,746
Intangibles	10,886,502	-	-	10,886,502
<b>Total Property and Equipment</b>	<b>21,047,833</b>	<b>292,471</b>	<b>(710,056)</b>	<b>20,630,248</b>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>				
Building	(3,816,581)	(221,643)	-	(4,038,224)
Furniture, Equipment, and Vehicles	(2,012,930)	(546,908)	710,056	(1,849,782)
Intangibles	(10,886,502)	-	-	(10,886,502)
<b>Total Accumulated Depreciation</b>	<b>(16,716,013)</b>	<b>(768,551)</b>	<b>710,056</b>	<b>(16,774,508)</b>
<b>Total Property and Equipment - Net</b>	<b>\$ 4,331,820</b>	<b>\$ (476,080)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,855,740</b>

## Changes in Property and Equipment For Period Ending June 30, 2016

	June 30, 2015	Additions	Deletions/ Transfers	June 30, 2016
<b>Asset Class (at Cost)</b>				
Land	\$ 858,390	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 858,390
Building	6,183,110	-	(12,500)	6,170,610
Furniture, Equipment, and Vehicles	2,987,356	302,295	(157,320)	3,132,331
Intangibles	10,886,502	-	-	10,886,502
<b>Total Property and Equipment</b>	<b>20,915,358</b>	<b>302,295</b>	<b>(169,820)</b>	<b>21,047,833</b>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>				
Building	(3,705,760)	(123,321)	12,500	(3,816,581)
Furniture, Equipment, and Vehicles	(2,025,838)	(144,412)	157,320	(2,012,930)
Intangibles	(10,879,484)	(7,018)	-	(10,886,502)
<b>Total Accumulated Depreciation</b>	<b>(16,611,082)</b>	<b>(274,751)</b>	<b>169,820</b>	<b>(16,716,013)</b>
<b>Total Property and Equipment - Net</b>	<b>\$ 4,304,276</b>	<b>\$ 27,544</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,331,820</b>

## **6. Accumulated Leave**

The employees of the System accumulate unlimited amounts of annual and sick leave at varying rates as established by state regulations. Upon resignation or retirement, unused annual leave of up to 300 hours is paid to an employee at the employee's current rate of pay. Upon retirement, unused annual leave in excess of 300 hours and sick leave are credited at the current pay rate as earned service in computing retirement benefits. The liability for accrued annual leave of up to 300 hours is included in other liabilities in the Statements of Fiduciary Net Position.

## **7. Reclassifications**

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to current year presentation. These reclassifications had no effect on Net Position Restricted for Pensions, or the Net Change in Fiduciary Net Position.

# **C. Contributions**

## **1. Member Contributions**

Member contribution rates for the System are established by La. R.S. 11:62. Member contributions are deducted from a member's salary and remitted to the System by participating employers. If a member leaves covered employment or dies before any benefits become payable on their behalf, the accumulated contributions may be refunded to the member or their designated beneficiary. Similarly, accumulated contributions in excess of any benefits paid to members or their survivors are refunded to the member's beneficiaries or their estates upon cessation of any survivor's benefits.

## **2. Employer Contributions**

The employer contribution rate is established annually under La. R.S. 11:101-11:104 by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee (PRSAC), taking into consideration the recommendation of the System's Actuary. Each plan pays a separate actuarially determined employer contribution rate. However, all assets of LASERS are used for the payment of benefits for all classes of members, regardless of their plan membership.

The member and employer rates in effect during the years ended June 30, 2017, and 2016, for the various plans are as follows:

Plan	Plan Status	2017 Employer Rate	2016 Employer Rate	Employee Rate
Appellate Law Clerks	Closed	35.80%	37.20%	7.50%
Appellate Law Clerks hired on or after 7/1/06	Open	35.80%	37.20%	8.00%
Alcohol Tobacco Control	Closed	30.70%	33.30%	9.00%
Bridge Police	Closed	34.20%	35.80%	8.50%
Bridge Police hired on or after 7/1/06	Closed	34.20%	35.80%	8.50%
Corrections Primary	Closed	31.10%	32.60%	9.00%
Corrections Secondary	Closed	35.30%	33.50%	9.00%
Harbor Police	Closed	4.00%	4.20%	9.00%
Hazardous Duty	Open	36.10%	37.60%	9.50%
Judges hired before 1/1/11	Closed	38.00%	38.10%	11.50%
Judges hired after 12/31/10	Closed	36.70%	39.30%	13.00%
Judges hired on or after 7/1/15	Open	36.70%	39.30%	13.00%
Legislators	Closed	39.10%	39.70%	11.50%
Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) before 7/1/06	Closed	35.80%	37.20%	7.50%
Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) on or after 7/1/06	Closed	35.80%	37.20%	8.00%
Peace Officers	Closed	34.30%	35.30%	9.00%
Regular Employees hired before 7/1/06	Closed	35.80%	37.20%	7.50%
Regular Employees hired on or after 7/1/06	Closed	35.80%	37.20%	8.00%
Regular Employees hired on or after 1/1/11	Closed	35.80%	37.20%	8.00%
Regular Employees hired on or after 7/1/15	Open	35.80%	37.20%	8.00%
Special Legislative Employees	Closed	41.10%	39.70%	9.50%
Wildlife Agents	Closed	44.80%	46.60%	9.50%
<b>Aggregate Rate</b>		<b>35.80%</b>	<b>37.00%</b>	

#### D. Fair Value Disclosures

LASERS categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The plan has the following recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively:

	6/30/2017	Fair Value Measurements Using		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>Investments by Fair Value Level</b>				
<b>Debt Investments</b>				
U.S. Government Obligations	\$ 79,716,908	\$ 79,716,908	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Agency Obligations	92,891,099	-	92,891,099	-
Mortgages	66,230,074	-	66,230,074	-
Corporate Bonds	649,792,060	3,345,776	578,421,521	68,024,763
International Bonds	447,375,296	-	419,416,355	27,958,941
Short-term Investments	143,515,253	-	-	143,515,253
<b>Total Debt Securities</b>	<b>\$ 1,479,520,690</b>	<b>\$ 83,062,684</b>	<b>\$ 1,156,959,049</b>	<b>\$ 239,498,957</b>
<b>Equity securities</b>				
Large Cap	\$ 1,190,316,025	\$ 1,190,316,025	\$ -	\$ -
Mid Cap	760,904,793	760,904,793	-	-
Small Cap	741,454,759	741,454,759	-	-
International Equities	2,498,753,532	2,496,410,139	2,343,377	16
Other	88,308,077	64,229,074	24,079,003	-
<b>Total Equity Securities</b>	<b>\$ 5,279,737,186</b>	<b>\$ 5,253,314,790</b>	<b>\$ 26,422,380</b>	<b>\$ 16</b>
Securities Lending Cash Collateral	\$ 1,239,682,923	\$ -	\$ 1,239,682,923	\$ -
<b>Total Investments at Fair Value Level</b>	<b>\$ 7,998,940,799</b>	<b>\$ 5,336,377,474</b>	<b>\$ 2,423,064,352</b>	<b>\$ 239,498,973</b>
<b>Investments measured at Net Asset Value (NAV)</b>				
Emerging Market Funds	\$ 1,184,926,931			
Private Equity	1,427,560,093			
Absolute Return	881,670,161			
Global Tactical Asset Allocation	738,813,292			
<b>Total Investments at NAV</b>	<b>\$ 4,232,970,477</b>			
<b>Investment Derivatives</b>				
Financial Futures	\$ 1,740	\$ 1,740	\$ -	
Foreign Exchange Contracts	(851,392)	-	(851,392)	
Swaps	(42,961)	-	(42,961)	
<b>Total Investment Derivatives</b>	<b>\$ (892,613)</b>	<b>\$ 1,740</b>	<b>\$ (894,353)</b>	
<b>Total Investments at Fair Value</b>	<b>\$ 12,231,018,663</b>			

	6/30/2016	Fair Value Measurements Using		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>Investments by Fair Value Level</b>				
Debt Investments				
U.S. Government Obligations	\$ 56,181,583	\$ 56,181,583	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Agency Obligations	169,873,738	-	169,873,738	-
Mortgages	62,160,073	-	62,160,073	-
Corporate Bonds	619,514,398	2,987,180	566,842,872	49,684,346
International Bonds	344,791,874	-	336,921,961	7,869,913
Short-term Investments	232,426,476	-	2,189,993	230,236,483
<b>Total Debt Securities</b>	<b>\$ 1,484,948,142</b>	<b>\$ 59,168,763</b>	<b>\$ 1,137,988,637</b>	<b>\$ 287,790,742</b>
Equity securities				
Large Cap	\$ 1,073,483,788	\$ 1,073,483,788	\$ -	\$ -
Mid Cap	723,909,236	723,909,236	-	-
Small Cap	664,928,663	664,928,663	-	-
International Equities	2,149,775,932	2,147,332,812	2,443,120	-
Other	88,490,474	70,245,980	18,244,494	-
<b>Total Equity Securities</b>	<b>\$ 4,700,588,093</b>	<b>\$ 4,679,900,479</b>	<b>\$ 20,687,614</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Securities Lending Cash Collateral	\$ 1,141,629,464	\$ 190,916,000	\$ 950,713,464	\$ -
<b>Total Investments at Fair Value Level</b>	<b>\$ 7,327,165,699</b>	<b>\$ 4,929,985,242</b>	<b>\$ 2,109,389,715</b>	<b>\$ 287,790,742</b>
<b>Investments measured at Net Asset Value (NAV)</b>				
Emerging Market Funds	\$ 935,684,473			
Private Equity	1,365,376,453			
Absolute Return	935,542,713			
Global Tactical Asset Allocation	739,740,674			
<b>Total Investments at NAV</b>	<b>\$ 3,976,344,313</b>			
<b>Investment Derivatives</b>				
Financial Futures	\$ 26,564	\$ 26,564	\$ -	
Foreign Exchange Contracts	(1,053,836)	-	(1,053,836)	
Short Sells	(2,782,341)	(1,138,131)	(1,644,210)	
<b>Total Investment Derivatives</b>	<b>\$ (3,809,613)</b>	<b>\$ (1,111,567)</b>	<b>\$ (2,698,046)</b>	
<b>Total Investments at Fair Value</b>	<b>\$ 11,299,700,399</b>			

Debt and equity securities classified in Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using prices quoted in active markets for those securities. Debt securities classified in Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using a matrix pricing technique. Matrix pricing is used to value securities based on the securities' relationship to benchmark quoted prices.

Derivative instruments classified in Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using a market approach that considers benchmark interest rates and foreign exchange rates. Investments classified in Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using unobservable inputs and are not directly corroborated with market data.

The unfunded commitments and redemption terms for investments measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share (or its equivalent) as of June 30, 2017 are presented in the following table.

	<u>Fair Value 2017</u>	<u>Unfunded Commitments</u>	<u>Redemption Frequency</u>	<u>Redemption Notice Period</u>
<b>Emerging Markets Funds</b>	\$ 1,184,926,931	\$ -	Monthly	7 - 30 days
<b>Global Tactical Asset Allocation</b>	738,813,292	-	Monthly	5 days
<b>Absolute Return</b>	881,670,161	-	Monthly to Quarterly	5 - 95 days
<b>Private Equity</b>	1,427,560,093	825,590,985	N/A	N/A
<b>Total Investments at NAV</b>	<u>\$ 4,232,970,477</u>			

The unfunded commitments and redemption terms for investments measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share (or its equivalent) as of June 30, 2016 are presented in the following table.

	<u>Fair Value 2016</u>	<u>Unfunded Commitments</u>	<u>Redemption Frequency</u>	<u>Redemption Notice Period</u>
<b>Emerging Markets Funds</b>	\$ 935,684,473	\$ -	Monthly	7 - 30 days
<b>Global Tactical Asset Allocation</b>	739,740,674	-	Monthly	5 days
<b>Absolute Return</b>	935,542,713	-	Monthly - Quarterly	5 - 95 days
<b>Private Equity</b>	1,365,376,453	832,051,159	N/A	N/A
<b>Total Investments at NAV</b>	<u>\$ 3,976,344,313</u>			

## 1. Emerging Markets

This type includes investments in three international emerging market equity commingled funds. These investments aim to benefit from the higher economic growth and lower debt levels in emerging countries. The fair value of the investments in these funds has been determined using the NAV per share (or equivalent) of the investments. Units are valued monthly and redemption of units varies from seven days advance notice to 30-day notice. Any amount redeemed will be paid within seven to thirty business days following the date as of which the withdrawal is to be made.

## **2. Global Tactical Asset Allocation**

This type includes investments in one global tactical asset allocation fund. Global Tactical Asset Allocation focuses on allocation of risk, usually defined as volatility, rather than allocation of capital. They are designed to balance risk among a variety of non-correlated assets through active management. The redemption notice period is five days with monthly redemptions available. Redemption payments may be delayed in whole or in part to the extent such delay is deemed necessary by the manager to prevent a redemption from having an adverse effect. The fair value of the investments has been determined using the NAV per share (or equivalent) of the investments.

## **3. Absolute Return**

This type includes investments in seven absolute return funds. Absolute Return Funds utilize a variety of strategies, asset classes, and securities to generate returns, depending on current market conditions. Funds tend to trade in a variety of strategies and exhibit low correlation to one another and to other absolute fund strategies. They are inherently diversified, with multiple sources of return. Managers have the ability to incubate and quickly execute new strategies. The fair value of the investments has been determined using the NAV per share (or equivalent) of the investments.

## **4. Private Equity**

Private equity is an asset class consisting of equity securities and debt in operating companies that are not publicly traded on a stock exchange. This type includes 67 and 64 private equity funds in fiscal years ending June 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Private equity funds employ a combination of strategies to earn superior risk-adjusted returns. The fair values of the investments in this type have been determined using the NAV per share (or equivalent) of the Plan's ownership interest in partners' capital. These investments can never be redeemed with the funds. Distributions from each fund will be received as the underlying investments of the funds are liquidated. It is expected that the underlying assets of the funds will be liquidated approximately 7 to 15 years from the commencement of the fund.

## **E. Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures**

The information presented on the following pages includes disclosures of custodial, interest rate, credit, and foreign currency risks in accordance with GASB 40, 53, and 67 and is designed to inform financial statement users about investment risks that could affect the System's ability to meet its obligations. The tables presented classify investments by risk type, while the financial statements present investments by asset class; thus, the totals shown on the tables may not be comparable to the amounts shown for the individual asset classes on the financial statements.

### **1. Custodial Credit Risk**

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the System's deposits may not be returned. The System does not have a formal deposit policy for custodial credit risk. All U.S. bank balances at year-end were insured or collateralized by the pledge of government securities held by the agents in the entity's name. LASERS had time deposits and certificates of deposits in the securities lending cash collateral pool that were exposed to custodial credit risk of \$173.3 million and \$46.0 million as of June 30, 2017 and June 30, 2016, respectively. LASERS had uninsured cash deposits

in non-U.S. banks of \$64.7 million and \$20.3 million for the periods ended June 30, 2017, and June 30, 2016, respectively.

Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the pension trust fund will not be able to recover the value of its investments, or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Investment securities are exposed to custodial credit risk if the securities are uninsured, are not registered in the name of the government, and are held by either: a) the counterparty or b) the counterparty's trust department or agent but not in the government's name. LASERS had no custodial credit risk for investments for the years ending June 30, 2017 and June 30, 2016.

## **2. Concentration of Credit Risk**

Concentration of credit risk is the "risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of investments in a single issuer." The risk occurs "when investments are concentrated in any one issuer that represents 5% or more of plan net assets." Investments issued or explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government and investments in mutual funds, external investment pools, and other pooled investments are excluded from this requirement. The System has no investments of any single organization (other than those issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government) that represent 5% or more of the System's net plan assets, nor does the System hold more than 5% of any corporation's stock.

## **3. Credit Risk**

Credit risk is the risk that a borrower will be unable to meet its obligation. The overall average quality of each core fixed income portfolio shall be rated A- or higher by Standard and Poor's. Non-rated issues or issues below investment grade (below BBB-) may be purchased up to a maximum of 15% of each core fixed income portfolio. These quality restrictions will not apply to a manager that is hired by LASERS to manage dedicated high-yield fixed income portfolios. The average duration shall not differ from the passive benchmark's duration by more than two years.

In preparing this report, credit risk associated with all fixed income holdings including collateral for repurchase agreements and securities lending collateral has been included. The System's exposure to credit risk as of June 30, 2017, and 2016, is as follows:

Rating	Fair Value	Percent	Fair Value	Percent
	2017	2017	2016	2016
AAA	\$ 9,608,653	0.3%	\$ 10,772,819	0.4%
A-1+	108,553,105	4.0%	42,280,746	1.6%
A-1	81,483,574	3.0%	89,453,619	3.4%
AA+	178,181,937	6.6%	225,909,666	8.7%
AA	5,627,810	0.2%	2,815,019	0.1%
AA-	48,215,707	1.8%	36,750,719	1.4%
A+	11,333,894	0.4%	3,316,230	0.1%
A	59,130,291	2.2%	55,515,117	2.1%
A-	56,721,090	2.1%	65,005,098	2.5%
BBB+	62,000,660	2.3%	52,145,743	2.0%
BBB	51,147,184	1.9%	57,262,930	2.2%
BBB-	69,417,258	2.5%	68,411,966	2.6%
BB+	65,611,275	2.4%	69,912,625	2.7%
BB	81,473,082	3.0%	97,751,205	3.7%
BB-	95,395,965	3.5%	80,446,363	3.1%
B+	91,823,215	3.4%	79,817,062	3.1%
B	82,326,127	3.0%	65,280,551	2.5%
B-	68,634,362	2.5%	66,242,572	2.5%
CCC+	47,254,164	1.7%	47,499,292	1.8%
CCC	13,628,401	0.5%	8,563,210	0.3%
CCC-	5,356,916	0.2%	2,511,702	0.1%
CC	2,894,863	0.1%	3,488,531	0.1%
C	67,705	0.0%	99,190	0.0%
D	17,985,143	0.7%	24,409,615	0.9%
Non-rated	1,404,436,879	51.7%	1,368,081,357	52.1%
<b>Total Fixed Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,718,309,260</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 2,623,742,947</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

#### 4. Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk from changes in interest rates adversely affecting the fair value of an investment. LASERS has no formal interest rate risk policy. LASERS, as expressed in its investment policy, expects its fixed income managers to approximate the portfolio's duration (a measure of a debt investment's exposure to fair value changes arising from interest rates) to within two years of its respective benchmark. Investments with fair values that are highly sensitive to interest rate changes may contain terms that increase the sensitivity of their fair values.

As of June 30, 2017, and 2016, the System had the following domestic and foreign debt investments and maturities:

Type	Fair Value 2017	Investment Maturities (in Years)			
		Less Than 1	1 - 5	5 - 10	Greater Than 10
U.S. Government Obligations	\$ 79,716,908	\$ 14,476,355	\$ 27,802,877	\$ 20,086,205	\$ 17,351,471
U.S. Agency Obligations	92,891,099	5,698,927	98,320	522,584	86,571,268
Mortgages	66,230,074	-	-	869,051	65,361,023
Corporate Bonds	673,048,356	57,332,494	217,613,064	321,030,602	77,072,196
International Bonds	470,200,369	45,995,239	106,893,328	212,539,507	104,772,295
Short-term Investments	146,618,917	146,618,917	-	-	-
International Short-term Investments	1,189,603,537	1,189,603,537	-	-	-
<b>Total Debt Investments</b>	<b>\$ 2,718,309,260</b>	<b>\$1,459,725,469</b>	<b>\$352,407,589</b>	<b>\$ 555,047,949</b>	<b>\$ 351,128,253</b>

Type	Fair Value 2016	Investment Maturities (in Years)			
		Less Than 1	1 - 5	5 - 10	Greater Than 10
U.S. Government Obligations	\$ 56,044,970	\$ 3,134,868	\$ 24,238,648	\$ 7,092,821	\$ 21,578,633
U.S. Agency Obligations	169,873,738	83,123,309	156,149	698,183	85,896,097
Mortgages	65,718,767	3,558,695	325	16,654	62,143,093
Corporate Bonds	643,516,903	43,635,275	194,657,664	332,309,529	72,914,435
International Bonds	357,394,849	33,472,060	105,483,809	148,641,373	69,797,607
Short-term Investments	768,306,510	768,306,510	-	-	-
International Short-term Investments	562,887,210	562,887,210	-	-	-
<b>Total Debt Investments</b>	<b>\$ 2,623,742,947</b>	<b>\$1,498,117,927</b>	<b>\$324,536,595</b>	<b>\$ 488,758,560</b>	<b>\$ 312,329,865</b>

## 5. Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the potential risk for loss due to changes in exchange rates. Cash held by the manager may be in U.S. dollar or foreign currencies of the manager's choice. Managers may purchase or sell currency on a spot basis to accommodate securities settlements. Managers may enter into forward exchange contracts on currency provided that use of such contracts is designed to dampen portfolio volatility or to facilitate the settlement of securities transactions. Currency contracts may be utilized to either hedge the portfolio's currency risk exposure or in the settlement of securities transactions.

Foreign investments denominated in U.S. currency such as American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) and Yankee bonds do not carry foreign currency risk; therefore, are not included in the tables below. LASERS portfolio contained several commingled funds subject to foreign currency risk with aggregate fair values of \$1.2 billion and \$0.9 billion for the years ended June 30, 2017 and June 30, 2016, respectively. LASERS Investment Guidelines, some of which are noted in *Note F. Cash and Investments*, are designed to mitigate risk.

The fair value of LASERS securities including derivative instruments held in a foreign currency at June 30, 2017, and 2016, is as follows:

Currency	Global Bonds	Global Stock	Cash/Other	Private Equity	Currency Contracts	Fair Value 2017
Argentinian Peso	\$ 833,720	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,433	\$ 846,153
Australian Dollar	-	143,042,762	6,401,236	-	-	149,443,998
Brazilian Real	17,778,109	12,616,137	60,129	-	24,515	30,478,890
British Pound Sterling	2,020,228	362,714,096	22,602,061	-	(19,031)	387,317,354
Canadian Dollar	-	189,698,306	1,593,836	-	(14,688)	191,277,454
Chilean Peso	377,625	3,408,444	-	-	7,315	3,793,384
Colombian Peso	12,754,725	1,774,151	25,093	-	21,830	14,575,799
Czech Koruna	-	-	-	-	104,544	104,544
Danish Krone	-	37,813,553	845,163	-	-	38,658,716
Dominican Peso	138,261	-	-	-	-	138,261
Egyptian Pound	298,886	-	-	-	388	299,274
Euro	47,063,260	637,393,348	129,269,288	90,633,607	(509,292)	903,850,211
Hong Kong Dollar	-	121,573,323	590,903	-	(22)	122,164,204
Hungarian Forint	-	3,991,882	32	-	-	3,991,914
Indian Rupee	-	7,836,256	64,764	-	(5,927)	7,895,093
Indonesian Rupiah	16,845,529	3,647,424	225,679	-	(379)	20,718,253
Israeli Shekel	-	7,311,260	1,673,267	-	-	8,984,527
Japanese Yen	-	462,022,252	7,932,086	-	816	469,955,154
Malaysian Ringgit	8,284,246	8,689,773	11,937	-	-	16,985,956
Mexican Peso	34,545,350	4,971,426	276,273	-	(84,902)	39,708,147
New Taiwan Dollar	-	37,022,201	326,008	-	-	37,348,209
New Zealand Dollar	-	16,993,225	386,212	-	(618,232)	16,761,205
Norwegian Krone	400,637	14,790,365	1,152,006	-	(6,010)	16,336,998
Omani Rial	-	-	-	-	1,839	1,839
Peruvian Sol	2,146,790	-	-	-	-	2,146,790
Philippines Peso	-	3,858,281	146,995	-	-	4,005,276
Polish Zloty	16,351,902	6,753,477	10	-	44,331	23,149,720
Qatari Riyal	-	552,134	77,849	-	(1,135)	628,848
Romanian Leu	-	-	-	-	121,937	121,937
Russian Ruble	14,083,436	-	-	-	6,295	14,089,731
Saudi Arabian Riyal	-	-	-	-	10,221	10,221
Singapore Dollar	-	59,031,235	1,793,594	-	-	60,824,829
South African Rand	16,552,977	11,832,605	31,838	-	74,034	28,491,454
South Korean Won	-	43,340,899	-	-	-	43,340,899
Swedish Krona	-	72,034,016	3,090,207	-	2,544	75,126,767
Swiss Franc	-	178,641,062	6,402,724	-	-	185,043,786
Thailand Baht	5,048,931	8,354,678	32,608	-	(55,681)	13,380,536
Turkish Lira	10,303,560	4,720,392	6	-	8,200	15,032,158
UAE Dirham	-	1,701,171	119,231	-	-	1,820,402
Uruguayan Peso	842,913	-	-	-	22,665	865,578
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 206,671,085</b>	<b>\$ 2,468,130,134</b>	<b>\$ 185,131,035</b>	<b>\$ 90,633,607</b>	<b>\$ (851,392)</b>	<b>\$ 2,949,714,469</b>

Currency	Global Bonds	Global Stock	Cash/Other	Private Equity	Currency Contracts	Fair Value 2016
Australian Dollar	\$ -	\$ 118,939,883	\$ 770,774	\$ -	\$ (69)	\$ 119,710,588
Brazilian Real	23,661,808	7,763,951	149,793	-	(643,977)	30,931,575
British Pound Sterling	1,601,103	350,608,243	2,940,640	-	223,798	355,373,784
Canadian Dollar	-	160,224,425	1,513,913	-	(4,306)	161,734,032
Chilean Peso	-	5,175,890	156,874	-	-	5,332,764
Chinese Yuan	-	-	-	-	(4,387)	(4,387)
Colombian Peso	11,834,838	1,444,962	30,074	-	2,347	13,312,221
Czech Koruna	-	515,073	(468)	-	-	514,605
Danish Krone	-	34,899,092	97,484	-	-	34,996,576
Euro	14,412,115	510,891,562	3,734,551	85,837,522	100,521	614,976,271
Hong Kong Dollar	-	91,438,278	754,104	-	-	92,192,382
Hungarian Forint	-	2,768,061	493	-	(54,972)	2,713,582
Indonesian Rupiah	16,976,111	3,138,823	113,107	-	(14,373)	20,213,668
Israeli Shekel	-	8,259,736	104,416	-	-	8,364,152
Japanese Yen	-	403,663,827	5,513,717	-	(963)	409,176,581
Malaysian Ringgit	12,659,470	10,225,760	152,816	-	18,774	23,056,820
Mexican Peso	21,145,262	5,669,981	194,656	-	(43,780)	26,966,119
New Taiwan Dollar	-	33,158,063	118,083	-	-	33,276,146
New Zealand Dollar	-	12,218,198	460,141	-	(281,814)	12,396,525
Norwegian Krone	-	16,520,004	231,937	-	-	16,751,941
Peruvian Sol	-	-	-	-	34,771	34,771
Philippines Peso	1,208,996	3,921,577	94,795	-	-	5,225,368
Polish Zloty	17,723,699	5,202,302	-	-	(25,834)	22,900,167
Qatari Riyal	-	3,558,251	208,909	-	(14)	3,767,146
Romanian Leu	1,988,825	-	-	-	(95,399)	1,893,426
Russian Ruble	9,983,240	-	-	-	(77,333)	9,905,907
Singapore Dollar	-	51,978,450	514,990	-	-	52,493,440
South African Rand	17,420,123	14,040,593	56,777	-	(141,885)	31,375,608
South Korean Won	-	35,769,629	-	-	-	35,769,629
Swedish Krona	-	57,099,704	1,750,452	-	2,322	58,852,478
Swiss Franc	-	162,975,054	632,054	-	-	163,607,108
Thailand Baht	5,810,030	9,392,393	42,163	-	(14,083)	15,230,503
Turkish Lira	14,221,161	4,902,349	443	-	(33,180)	19,090,773
UAE Dirham	-	2,163,985	-	-	-	2,163,985
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 170,646,781</b>	<b>\$ 2,128,528,099</b>	<b>\$ 20,337,688</b>	<b>\$ 85,837,522</b>	<b>\$ (1,053,836)</b>	<b>\$ 2,404,296,254</b>

## F. Cash and Investments

### 1. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash deposited in banks. Cash is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$250,000, and cash equivalents are collateralized by the pledge of government securities held by the agents in LASERS name.

### 2. Short-Term Investments

Short-term reserves may be held in U.S. dollar or global denominated investment vehicles available through the System's custodian. These funds may be invested in direct U.S. Government obligations

such as U.S. Treasury Bills or repurchase agreements, which are fully collateralized by issues of the U.S. Treasury or any agency of the United States Government. Repurchase agreement transactions as of June 30, 2017 and 2016 have underlying collateral with fair values of approximately 102% of the cost of the repurchase agreement. The agreed-upon yields for the repurchase agreements were 25 basis points with maturity dates through July 1, 2016. LASERS had repurchase agreements with fair values of \$0 as of June 30, 2017 and \$83,123,309 as of June 30, 2016. During fiscal year 2017, LASERS replaced the repurchase sweep account with an interest bearing demand deposit account for cash balances held in its operating bank resulting in an increase of cash and cash equivalents. Excess cash may also be invested in the negotiable certificates of deposit, global time deposits, global currency, or other short-term investment vehicles designated by the Board.

### 3. Investments

Louisiana state law (La. R.S. 11:261-269) provides for the fiduciary and investment responsibilities of LASERS. La. R.S. 11:263 states that the prudent man rule shall apply to all investments of LASERS. This law specifically requires management of LASERS to exercise the judgment and care under the circumstances prevailing that a prudent institutional investor would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character with like aims.

#### A) Investment Policy

The System's policy in regard to the allocation of invested assets is established and may be amended by the LASERS Board. Plan assets are managed on a total return basis with a long-term objective of achieving and maintaining a fully funded status for the benefits provided through the pension plan.

The following were LASERS Board adopted asset allocation policies in effect on June 30, 2017 and 2016:

#### Target Asset Allocation

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Cash	0%	0%
Domestic Equity	25%	25%
International Equity	32%	32%
Domestic Fixed Income	8%	8%
International Fixed Income	6%	6%
Alternative Investments	22%	22%
Global Tactical Asset Allocation	7%	7%
Totals	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>

#### B) Rate of Return

For the years ended June 30, 2017 and 2016, the annual money-weighted rate of return on pension plan investments, net of pension plan investment expense, were 14.9% and -2.6%, respectively. The money-weighted return expresses investment performance, net of investment expenses, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested.

#### **4. Domestic Equity**

Domestic equity purchases are limited to publicly traded common stocks. Exceptions shall be approved by the Board in advance. No single holding shall account for more than 6% of the allowable equity portion of the portfolio at market value, or 150% of a stock's weighting in the style benchmark against which the manager is measured, whichever is larger.

LASERS domestic equity portfolios are expected to be fully invested. No single holding in LASERS portfolio shall account for more than 5% of the outstanding common stock of any one corporation. No more than 10% of a manager's domestic equity portfolio may consist of cash or cash equivalents. Additionally, no single holding across all actively managed portfolios of an investment management firm shall account for more than 15% of the outstanding common stock of any one corporation.

The purchase of stocks or convertibles in foreign companies, which are publicly traded securities, may be held by each domestic stock manager in proportions up to 10% of the portfolio at fair value. Convertible bonds, convertible preferred stocks, warrants and rights may be purchased as equity substitutes as long as they meet the equity guidelines listed above.

#### **5. International Equity**

Short-term reserves may be held in U.S. dollar-denominated, local currency securities, or investment vehicles available through the System's custodian. Managers may purchase or sell currency on a spot basis to accommodate security settlements. Managers may enter into forward exchange contracts on currency provided that use of such contracts is designed to dampen portfolio volatility or to facilitate the settlement of security transactions.

LASERS international equity portfolios are expected to be fully invested. No more than 10% of a manager's international equity portfolio may consist of cash or cash equivalents. Equity securities should be issued by non-U.S. corporations, although the manager has latitude to hold U.S. securities provided that such investment is consistent with attainment of the portfolio's investment objectives, and does not exceed 10% of the portfolio's market value. American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) do not count toward this 10% limitation.

The number of issues held and their geographic or industry distribution shall be left to the investment manager provided that equity holdings in any one company (including common stock and convertible securities) do not exceed 6% of the fair value of the manager's portion of LASERS portfolio. Additionally, bonds of the companies in question would be included in LASERS exposure calculation if held in the manager's portfolio.

Managers with established international equity mandates may invest up to 10% of their portfolio(s) in the emerging markets, as defined by the MSCI EM Index. Managers with an emerging markets equity mandate are expected to invest in the emerging (non-established) markets, subject to the guidelines listed above.

#### **6. Domestic Core Fixed Income**

Domestic core fixed income investments may include U.S. Government and Federal Agency obligations, corporate bonds, debentures, commercial paper, certificates of deposit, Yankee bonds, mortgage-backed securities, and senior secured debt and other instruments deemed prudent by the investment managers. No more than 6% of the fair value of LASERS domestic core fixed income

assets may be invested in the debt securities of any one issuer. No limitations on issues and issuers shall apply to obligations of U.S. Government and Federal Agencies.

The overall average quality of each fixed income portfolio shall be rated A- or higher. Issues not rated may be purchased provided that in the judgment of the manager, they are of a quality sufficient to maintain the average overall portfolio quality of A- or higher. Non-rated issues or issues below investment grade (below BBB-) may be purchased up to a maximum of 15% of the portfolio.

The diversification of securities by maturity, quality, sector, coupon, and geography is the responsibility of the manager. Active bond management is encouraged, as deemed appropriate by the investment managers. The average duration (interest rate sensitivity) of an actively managed portfolio shall not differ from the passive benchmark's duration by more than two years.

Investments in mortgage-backed securities shall have the characteristics of fixed income securities, and be responsive to changes in domestic interest rate changes, as well as other factors that affect the credit markets and mortgage investments. The investment managers are responsible for making an independent analysis of the credit worthiness of securities and their suitability as investments for the Plan, and shall adhere to the specific investment, security, diversification limits, and administrative guidelines established in the investment management agreement(s).

High-yield fixed income managers may invest up to 20% of their portfolios in non-U.S. fixed income securities. They shall perform careful credit analysis to mitigate losses from defaults. Investments should be diversified across sector, industry, sub-industry, and market to mitigate losses. No more than 6% of fair value of the System's high yield assets may be invested in the debt securities of any one issuer.

## **7. Global Fixed Income**

The global bond portfolio may hold no more than 30% of its assets, at fair value, in the debt securities of any single foreign government or non-U.S. government entity. No single non-government debt security shall constitute more than 6% of the global bond portfolio, at fair value. Securities issued by AAA rated supranational organizations (such as the World Bank) shall be considered to be government equivalents.

Short-term reserves may be held in U.S. dollar-denominated or local currency securities or investment vehicles available through LASERS custodian.

Managers may enter into forward exchange contracts on currency provided that use of such contracts is designed to dampen portfolio volatility rather than leverage portfolio risk exposure. Currency contracts may be utilized to either hedge the portfolio's currency risk exposure or in the settlement of securities transactions. Managers may purchase or sell currency on a spot basis to accommodate securities settlements. Decisions as to the number of issues held and their geographic distribution shall be the responsibility of the investment manager.

The overall average quality of each global fixed income portfolio shall be A- or higher. Non-rated issues may be purchased, provided that in the judgment of the manager, they are of a quality sufficient to maintain the average overall portfolio quality of A- or higher. Issues below investment grade (below BBB-) and/or mortgage backed securities may be purchased up to a maximum of 15% of the portfolio. The average duration (interest rate sensitivity) of a global fixed income portfolio shall not differ from the passive benchmark by more than two years.

## 8. Emerging Market Debt

The emerging markets debt portfolio may hold no more than 1.75 times the passive benchmark weight, at fair value, in the debt securities of any single sovereign entity. The portfolio may hold up to 15% in securities not issued by benchmark countries. The portfolio may hold up to a combined allocation of 20% in non-benchmark inflation-linked bonds and corporate debt securities. Investments should be diversified across sovereign issuers and markets to mitigate losses from defaults.

Managers may enter into forward exchange contracts on currency provided that use of such contracts is designed to dampen portfolio volatility rather than leverage portfolio risk exposure. Currency contracts may be utilized to either hedge the portfolio's currency risk exposure or in the settlement of securities transactions. Managers may purchase or sell currency on a spot basis to accommodate securities settlements. Decisions as to the number of issues held and their geographic distribution shall be the responsibility of the investment manager.

The overall average quality of each portfolio shall be BBB- or higher. Non-rated issues may be purchased provided that in the judgment of the manager, they are of a quality sufficient to maintain the average overall portfolio quality of BBB- or higher. The modified duration (interest rate sensitivity) of an emerging markets debt (local currency) portfolio shall not differ from the passive benchmark by more than three years.

## 9. Global Multi-Sector Fixed Income

The global multi-sector portfolio may hold no more than 6% of its assets, in fair value in the securities of any one issuer, excluding securities of the U.S. Government and its agencies. Managers may invest up to 10% of the portfolio fair value in equity securities. At least 80% of the portfolio assets must be in investments that can be sold with 60 days.

## 10. Derivatives

The System invested in collateralized mortgage obligations (forms of mortgage-backed securities), foreign exchange currency contracts, futures, options, warrants, rights, and a Synthetic Guaranteed Investment Contract (SGIC). The System reviews market value of all securities on a monthly basis. Derivative securities may be held in part to maximize yields and in part to hedge against a rise in interest rates. The fair value of rights and warrants are determined based upon quoted market prices. For the years ending June 30, 2017, and June 30, 2016, the derivative instruments held by the System were considered investments and not hedges for accounting purposes. The term hedging, as it is used elsewhere in the notes to these financial statements, denotes an economic activity and not an accounting method. Investments in limited partnerships and commingled funds may include derivatives. Interest rate risk, credit rate risk, and foreign currency risk associated with derivatives are included on their respective tables in *Note E. Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures*.

- a. **Collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs)** are bonds that are collateralized by whole loan mortgages, mortgage pass-through securities, or stripped mortgage-backed securities. Income is derived from payments and prepayments of principal and interest generated from collateral mortgages. Cash flows are distributed to different investment classes or tranches in accordance with that CMOs established payment order. Some CMO tranches have more stable cash flows relative to changes in interest rates than others that can be significantly sensitive to interest rate

fluctuations. In a declining interest rate environment, some CMOs may be subject to a reduction in interest payments as a result of prepayments of mortgages which make up the collateral pool. Reductions in interest payments cause a decline in cash flows and, thus, a decline in market value of the CMO security. Rising interest rates may cause an increase in interest payments, thus an increase in the value of the security.

- b. **Synthetic Guaranteed Investment Contract (SGIC)** is an investment for tax-qualified, defined contribution pension plans consisting of two parts: an asset owned directly by the plan trust and a wrap contract providing book value protection for participant withdrawals prior to maturity. LASERS maintains a fully benefit-responsive synthetic guaranteed investment contract option for members of the Optional Retirement Plan and the Self-Directed Plan. The investment objective of the SGIC is to protect members from loss of their original investment and to provide a competitive interest rate. LASERS Stable Value Fund had fair values of \$500.2 and \$491.0 million for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2017, and 2016, respectively. Fair values of this fund exceeded the values protected by the wrap contract by \$0.1 million and \$10.7 million for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2017, and 2016, respectively. The counterparty rating for the wrap contract was AA.
- c. **Futures** contracts are standardized, exchange-traded contracts to purchase or sell a specific financial instrument at a predetermined price. Gains and losses on futures contracts are settled daily based on a notional (underlying) principal value and do not involve an actual transfer of the specific instrument. The exchange assumes the risk that the counterparty will not pay and generally requires margin payments to minimize such risk. Futures are used primarily as a tool to increase or decrease market exposure to various asset classes.
- d. A **currency forward** is a contractual agreement between two parties to pay or receive specific amounts of foreign currency at a future date in exchange for another currency at an agreed upon exchange rate. Forwards are usually transacted in the over-the-counter market. These transactions are entered into in order to hedge risks from exposure to foreign currency rate fluctuation. They are entered into with the foreign exchange department of a bank located in a major money market. Recognition of realized gain or loss depends on whether the currency exchange rate has moved favorably or unfavorably to the contract holder upon termination of the contract. Prior to termination of the contract, the System records the unrealized translation gain or loss. Forward commitments are not standardized, and carry counterparty risk. Counterparty risk ratings from forwards for the years ended June 30, 2017, and 2016, ranged from ratings of A-2 to A-1+.
- e. **Option contracts** provide the option purchaser with the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell the underlying security at a set price during a period or at a specified date. The option writer is obligated to buy or sell the underlying security if the option purchaser chooses to exercise the option.
- f. A **short sale** is the sale of a security or commodity futures contract that is not owned by the seller. It is a technique used to take advantage of an anticipated decline in the price or to protect a profit in a long position.
- g. **Swaps** are derivative instruments in which two parties agree to exchange one stream of cash flows against another stream or a guarantee. These streams are called the legs of the swap and usually at least one leg has a rate that is variable. The variable leg can depend on a reference rate,

the total return of an asset , or an economic statistic. Cash flows are calculated based on the notional amount, which are usually not exchanged between counterparties. Counterparty risk ratings for the year ended June 30, 2017 were A-1. There were no swaps at June 30, 2016.

The following tables represent the fair value of all open currency, futures, and options contracts at June 30, 2017, and 2016:

Change in Fair Value 2017			Fair Value at June 30, 2017		
Derivative Type	Classification	Gain/(Loss)	Classification	Amount	Notional
Foreign Exchange					
Contracts	Net Appreciation	\$ 202,444	Short-term Invest.	\$ (851,392)	\$62,409,519
Financial Futures	Net Depreciation	(24,824)	International Equity	1,740	(4,028,118)
Swaps	Net Depreciation	(42,961)	Domestic Bonds	(42,961)	3,233,000
Short Sales	Net Appreciation	2,782,341	International Bonds	-	N/A
Change in Fair Value 2016			Fair Value at June 30, 2016		
Derivative Type	Classification	Gain/(Loss)	Classification	Amount	Notional
Foreign Exchange					
Contracts	Net Depreciation	\$ (1,275,817)	Short-term Invest.	\$ (1,053,836)	\$27,955,378
Commodity Futures	Net Depreciation	(1,391,036)	Alternatives	-	-
Financial Futures	Net Depreciation	26,564	International Equity	26,564	2,210,640
Option	Net Depreciation	(77,326)	Domestic Bonds	-	N/A
Short Sales	Net Depreciation	(2,782,341)	International Bonds	(2,782,341)	N/A

## 11. Alternative Investments

Investments in alternatives include, but are not limited to, private equity, absolute return (hedge funds), and real assets. Investment strategies may include buyouts or corporate restructuring, venture capital, secondary investments, distressed securities, mezzanine instruments, energy and natural resources, and any other special situation.

LASERS endeavors to systematically commit additional funds to this asset class over time as it becomes under-represented relative to the LASERS target asset allocation. LASERS attempts to commit up to 200% of its target weighting to private equity investments to help ensure that the funded portion of the investments approximates the target allocation.

The Board of LASERS recognizes that alternative assets are potentially more risky than other investments of the System. As such, extra care is taken in evaluating and fully understanding all aspects on an alternative investment opportunity.

No more than 25% of the alternative asset investment allocation may be invested with a single manager, general partner, or single fund, with the exception of a fund-of-funds. Preference will be given to those funds where the general partner is contributing at least 1% of the total fund. All investments must have a mechanism for exit.

## **12. Global Tactical Asset Allocation**

Global Tactical Asset Allocation (GTAA) is a top-down investment strategy that attempts to exploit short-term mis-pricings among a global set of assets. The strategy focuses on general movements in the market rather than on performance of individual securities. This portfolio is managed in a commingled format. As such, LASERS investment guidelines do not apply. The commingled fund's guidelines are broadly similar to LASERS and shall take precedent.

## **G. Securities Lending Program**

State statutes and the Board's policies permit the System to make short-term collateralized loans of its securities to broker-dealers and other entities in order to earn incremental income. LASERS has contracted with its custodian, BNY Mellon, to lend domestic and international equity and debt securities. The majority of security loans can be terminated on demand by either LASERS or the borrower. Collateral in the form of cash or other securities is required for 102% of the fair value of domestic or sovereign debt, and 105% of the fair value of international securities excluding sovereign debt loaned. Since the majority of the loans are terminable at will, their duration does not generally match the duration of the investments made with the cash collateral.

LASERS is not permitted to pledge or sell collateral securities unless a borrower defaults. The System did not impose any restrictions during the fiscal year on the amount of the loans that BNY Mellon made on its behalf, and BNY Mellon indemnified the System by agreeing to purchase replacement securities, or return cash collateral in the event a borrower failed to return a loaned security or pay distributions thereon. There were no such failures by any borrower to return loaned securities or pay distributions thereon during the fiscal year.

On June 30, 2017 and 2016, the System had no credit risk exposure to borrowers because the amounts the System owed the borrowers exceeded the fair value of securities on loan to the borrowers. The fair value of securities on loan totaled \$1,333,252,906 and \$1,199,976,921 for the years ended June 30, 2017, and 2016, respectively. The fair value of non-cash collateral on loan totaled \$136,974,475 and \$99,073,059 as of June 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

## **H. Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)**

### **1. Plan Description**

The Office of Group Benefits (OGB) is an agent multiple-employer postemployment healthcare plan that covers retired employees of the State, as well as school boards and various other non-state employers. OGB provides health and life insurance benefits to eligible retirees, their spouses, and their dependents. La. R.S. 42:801-883 assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions of the plan to the state legislature. OGB does not issue a publicly available financial report of the OPEB Plan; however, it is included in the Louisiana Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). A copy of the CAFR may be obtained on the Office of Statewide Reporting and Accounting Policy's website at [www.doa.la.gov/Pages/osrap/index.aspx](http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/osrap/index.aspx).

## 2. Funding Policy

La. R.S. 42:801-883 assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions of the plan to the State Legislature. Retired plan members and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits are required to contribute specified amounts monthly toward the cost of health insurance premiums.

### Summary of Plan Provisions:

Employees that participated in OGB medical coverage starting before January 1, 2002 pay 25% of the cost of active coverage in retirement. Employees with an OGB medical participation start (or re-start) date after December 31, 2001 pay a percentage of the total retiree premium rate (active premium if over 20 years of service) based on the following schedule:

<b>OGB</b>		
<u>Participation</u>	<u>State Share</u>	<u>Retiree Share</u>
Under 10 years	19%	81%
10-14 years	38%	62%
15-19 years	56%	44%
20+ years	75%	25%

Total monthly per capita premium rates effective as of January 1, 2017 are as follows:

	<b>Magnolia Open Access</b>	<b>Magnolia Local</b>	<b>Magnolia Local Plus</b>	<b>Pelican HAS 775</b>	<b>Pelican HRA 1000</b>	<b>Vantage MHHMO</b>
<b><u>Active</u></b>						
Single	\$ 702	\$ 573	\$ 676	\$ 244	\$ 422	\$ 671
With Spouse	\$ 1,492	\$ 1,216	\$ 1,435	\$ 519	\$ 897	\$ 1,425
With Children	\$ 857	\$ 698	\$ 824	\$ 298	\$ 515	\$ 818
Family	\$ 1,574	\$ 1,283	\$ 1,513	\$ 547	\$ 946	\$ 1,503
<b><u>Retired No Medicare &amp; Re-employed Retiree</u></b>						
Single	\$ 1,307	\$ 1,065	\$ 1,261	N/A	\$ 785	\$ 1,252
With Spouse	\$ 2,308	\$ 1,881	\$ 2,227	N/A	\$ 1,387	\$ 2,211
With Children	\$ 1,456	\$ 1,187	\$ 1,405	N/A	\$ 875	\$ 1,395
Family	\$ 2,296	\$ 1,872	\$ 2,216	N/A	\$ 1,380	\$ 2,201
<b><u>Retired with 1 Medicare</u></b>						
Single	\$ 425	\$ 346	\$ 417	N/A	\$ 255	\$ 414
With Spouse	\$ 1,570	\$ 1,280	\$ 1,525	N/A	\$ 944	\$ 1,514
With Children	\$ 736	\$ 600	\$ 718	N/A	\$ 442	\$ 713
Family	\$ 2,092	\$ 1,706	\$ 2,029	N/A	\$ 1,257	\$ 2,015
<b><u>Retired with 2 Medicare</u></b>						
With Spouse	\$ 764	\$ 623	\$ 748	N/A	\$ 459	\$ 743
Family	\$ 946	\$ 771	\$ 926	N/A	\$ 568	\$ 920

### Medicare Supplement Rate

All members who retire on or after July 1, 1997 must have Medicare Parts A and B in order to qualify for the reduced premium rates. The monthly premium rates for the Medicare supplement plans for retirees are as follows:

	2017*		2016*	
	Retired With		Retired With	
	<u>1 Medicare</u>	<u>2 Medicare</u>	<u>1 Medicare</u>	<u>2 Medicare</u>
Peoples Health HMO-POS	\$ 247	\$ 494	\$ 242	\$ 484
Vantage Premium HMO-POS	\$ 240	\$ 480	\$ 268	\$ 535
Vantage HMO-POS	\$ 197	\$ 395	\$ 197	\$ 395

\*Vantage also offers a zero premium plan free of charge.

### Life Insurance Premiums

Retirees pay \$0.54 for each \$1,000 of personal life insurance and \$0.98 for each \$1,000 of spousal life insurance.

### 3. Annual OPEB Cost and Net OPEB Obligation

The State is required to contribute the annual required contribution (ARC) of the employer, an amount actuarially determined in accordance with the parameters of GASB 45. The ARC represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities (or funding excess) over a period not to exceed 30 years. The current ARC rate is 14.4% of annual covered payroll. At June 30, 2017, and 2016, annual OPEB costs and net OPEB obligations were:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Annual Required Contribution	\$ 897,382	\$ 966,907
Interest on OPEB Obligation	363,929	356,931
Adjustment to Annual Required Contribution	<u>(356,336)</u>	<u>(340,980)</u>
Annual OPEB Cost (Expense)	904,975	982,858
Contributions Made	<u>(303,522)</u>	<u>(329,058)</u>
Increase in Net OPEB Obligation	601,453	653,800
Net OPEB Obligation Beginning of Year	<u>9,577,070</u>	<u>8,923,270</u>
Net OPEB Obligation End of Year	<u>\$ 10,178,523</u>	<u>\$ 9,577,070</u>

For fiscal year 2017, LASERS net OPEB obligation of \$10,178,523 is included in Trade Payables and Other Accrued Liabilities in the Statements of Fiduciary Net Position and annual OPEB cost (expense) of \$904,975 is separately reported in the Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position. The annual OPEB cost, the percentage of annual OPEB cost contributed to the plan, and the net OPEB obligation for fiscal years 2017, 2016, and 2015, are as follows:

<b>Fiscal Year Ended</b>	<b>Annual OPEB Cost</b>	<b>Percentage of Annual OPEB Cost Contributed</b>	<b>Net OPEB Obligation</b>
6/30/2015	\$ 940,845	32.5%	\$ 8,923,270
6/30/2016	\$ 982,858	33.5%	\$ 9,577,070
6/30/2017	\$ 904,975	33.5%	\$ 10,178,523

**Funded Status and Funding Progress:** The funding status of the plan as of June 30, 2017, was as follows:

<b>Actuarial Valuation Date</b>	<b>Actuarial Value of Assets (a)</b>	<b>Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) (b)</b>	<b>Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (b-a)</b>	<b>Funded Ratio (a/b)</b>	<b>Covered Payroll (c)</b>	<b>UAAL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll [(b-a)/c]</b>
7/1/2015	\$ -	\$ 12,901,471	\$ 12,901,471	0.0%	\$ 6,524,589	197.7%
7/1/2016	\$ -	\$ 11,198,946	\$ 11,198,946	0.0%	\$ 6,241,936	179.4%

Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and the healthcare cost trend. Amounts determined regarding the funded status of the plan and the annual required contributions of the employer are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future. The Schedules of Funding Progress, presented as required supplementary information following the *Notes to the Financial Statements*, present the current year's funding status, and presents multi-year trend information that will show whether the actuarial value of plan assets is increasing or decreasing over time, relative to the actuarial accrued liabilities for benefits.

#### 4. Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and plan members), and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation, and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between the employer and plan members to that point. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities, and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used as of the July 1, 2016 actuarial valuation are as follows:

<b>Actuarial Cost Method</b>	Projected Unit Credit
<b>Investment Rate of Return</b>	3.8%
<b>Inflation Rate</b>	2.8%
<b>Healthcare Inflation Rate</b>	7.0% and 6.0% for pre Medicare and Medicare, respectively, scaling down to ultimate rate of 4.5%
<b>UAAL Amortization Method</b>	Level percentage of payroll, open
<b>Remaining Amortization Period</b>	30 years
<b>Projected Salary Increases</b>	3.0% per Annum

The valuation utilized participant data supplied by OGB, the State Payroll System, and the various state retirement systems. Projected claim costs were determined by combining trended claims data, actual capitation rates, and actual vendor fees.

## Schedules of Changes in Net Pension Liability

For Four Years Ended June 30, 2017\*

	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>Total Pension Liability</b>				
Service Cost	\$ 219,475,741	\$ 222,458,027	\$ 208,898,813	\$ 228,140,255
Interest	1,405,827,435	1,379,644,606	1,353,766,106	1,334,400,080
Changes of Benefit Terms - Permanent Benefit Increase	-	120,572,581	-	114,705,590
Changes of Benefit Terms - Harbor Police Transfer	-	20,680,250	-	-
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	(139,108,937)	(109,244,104)	13,638,601	(167,128,306)
Changes of Assumptions	41,711,761	-	-	-
Retirement Benefits	(1,274,461,022)	(1,238,507,932)	(1,199,079,252)	(1,167,477,166)
Refunds and Transfers of Member Contributions	(37,606,040)	(35,997,261)	(38,308,757)	(77,118,765)
<b>Net Change in Total Pension Liability</b>	<u>215,838,938</u>	<u>359,606,167</u>	<u>338,915,511</u>	<u>265,521,688</u>
<b>Total Pension Liability - Beginning</b>	<u>18,576,266,623</u>	<u>18,216,660,456</u>	<u>17,877,744,945</u>	<u>17,612,223,257</u>
<b>Total Pension Liability - Ending (a)</b>	<u>\$ 18,792,105,561</u>	<u>\$ 18,576,266,623</u>	<u>\$ 18,216,660,456</u>	<u>\$ 17,877,744,945</u>
<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position</b>				
Employer Contributions	\$ 675,583,750	\$ 718,606,512	\$ 726,678,134	\$ 615,164,022
Employee Contributions	149,931,242	152,233,771	153,281,097	152,993,052
Harbor Police Transfer	-	10,790,721	-	-
Net Investment Income (Loss)	1,520,600,699	(296,729,232)	152,809,130	1,770,521,381
Other Income	14,049,255	15,185,502	12,928,989	20,810,679
Retirement Benefits	(1,274,461,022)	(1,238,507,932)	(1,199,079,252)	(1,167,477,166)
Refunds and Transfers of Member Contributions	(37,606,040)	(35,997,261)	(38,308,757)	(77,118,765)
Administrative Expenses	(17,074,984)	(15,615,605)	(15,877,682)	(14,810,539)
Other Postemployment Benefits Expenses	(904,975)	(982,858)	(940,845)	(1,103,488)
Depreciation and Amortization Expenses	(556,901)	(419,718)	(1,193,314)	(1,724,101)
<b>Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position</b>	<u>1,029,561,024</u>	<u>(691,436,100)</u>	<u>(209,702,500)</u>	<u>1,297,255,075</u>
<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning</b>	<u>10,723,714,826</u>	<u>11,415,150,926</u>	<u>11,624,853,426</u>	<u>10,327,598,351</u>
<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending (b)</b>	<u>\$ 11,753,275,850</u>	<u>\$ 10,723,714,826</u>	<u>\$ 11,415,150,926</u>	<u>\$ 11,624,853,426</u>
<b>Net Pension Liability - Ending (a)-(b)</b>	<u>\$ 7,038,829,711</u>	<u>\$ 7,852,551,797</u>	<u>\$ 6,801,509,530</u>	<u>\$ 6,252,891,519</u>

\*Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

## Schedules of Changes in Net Pension Liability (Continued)

For Four Years Ended June 30, 2017\*

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total Pension Liability</b>	62.5%	57.7%	62.7%	65.0%
<b>Covered Employee Payroll</b>	\$ 1,821,943,975	\$ 1,842,286,184	\$ 1,856,735,292	\$ 1,813,759,357
<b>Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll</b>	386.3%	426.2%	366.3%	344.7%

\*Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

## Schedules of Employers' Net Pension Liability

For the Five Years Ended June 30, 2017\*

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
<b>Total Pension Liability</b>	\$ 18,792,105,561	\$ 18,576,266,623	\$ 18,216,660,456	\$ 17,877,744,945	\$ 17,612,223,257
<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position</b>	11,753,275,850	10,723,714,826	11,415,150,926	11,624,853,426	10,327,598,351
<b>Employers' Net Pension Liability</b>	\$ 7,038,829,711	\$ 7,852,551,797	\$ 6,801,509,530	\$ 6,252,891,519	\$ 7,284,624,906
<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total Pension Liability</b>	62.5%	57.7%	62.7%	65.0%	58.6%
<b>Covered Employee Payroll</b>	\$ 1,821,943,975	\$ 1,842,286,184	\$ 1,856,735,292	\$ 1,813,759,357	\$ 1,951,987,750
<b>Employers' Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll</b>	386.3%	426.2%	366.3%	344.7%	373.2%

\*Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

## Schedules of Employer Contributions

For the Ten Years Ended June 30, 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Actuarial Determined Contribution</u>	<u>Contributions in Relation to Actuarial Determined Contribution</u>	<u>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</u>	<u>Covered Employee Payroll</u>	<u>Contributions as a % of Covered Employee Payroll</u>
2008	\$ 438,991,628	\$ 506,484,759	\$ (67,493,131)	\$ 2,436,955,566	20.8%
2009	\$ 473,267,523	\$ 487,353,901	\$ (14,086,378)	\$ 2,562,575,942	19.0%
2010	\$ 562,524,589	\$ 491,237,641	\$ 71,286,948	\$ 2,546,456,790	19.3%
2011	\$ 651,770,540	\$ 558,183,107	\$ 93,587,433	\$ 2,408,839,604	23.2%
2012	\$ 687,019,184	\$ 637,285,920	\$ 49,733,264	\$ 2,341,703,286	27.2%
2013	\$ 724,391,420	\$ 649,029,708	\$ 75,361,712	\$ 1,951,987,750	33.2%
2014	\$ 709,799,409	\$ 612,698,414	\$ 97,100,995	\$ 1,813,759,357	33.8%
2015	\$ 697,377,899	\$ 722,137,361	\$ (24,759,462)	\$ 1,856,735,292	38.9%
2016	\$ 694,091,525	\$ 718,606,514	\$ (24,514,989)	\$ 1,842,286,184	39.0%
2017	\$ 701,906,777	\$ 675,583,750	\$ 26,323,027	\$ 1,821,943,975	37.1%

## Schedules of Investment Returns

For the Five Years Ended June 30, 2017\*

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
<b>Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return, Net of Investment Expense</b>	14.9%	-2.6%	1.5%	17.9%	12.1%

\*Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

## Schedules of Funding Progress for OPEB

For the Three Years Ended June 30, 2017

<b>Actuarial Valuation Date</b>	<b>Actuarial Value of Assets (a)</b>	<b>Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) (b)</b>	<b>Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (b-a)</b>	<b>Funded Ratio (a/b)</b>	<b>Covered Payroll (c)</b>	<b>UAAL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll [(b-a)/c]</b>
7/1/2014	\$ -	\$ 12,310,700	\$ 12,310,700	0.0%	\$ 6,453,000	190.8%
7/1/2015	\$ -	\$ 12,901,471	\$ 12,901,471	0.0%	\$ 6,524,589	197.7%
7/1/2016	\$ -	\$ 11,198,946	\$ 11,198,946	0.0%	\$ 6,241,936	179.4%

## Notes to Required Supplementary Information

### A. Schedules of Changes in Net Pension Liability

The total pension liability contained in this schedule was provided by the System's actuary, Foster & Foster. The net pension liability is measured as the total pension liability less the amount of the fiduciary net position of the System.

### B. Schedules of Employers' Net Pension Liability

The schedule of employers' net pension liability shows the percentage of LASERS employers' net pension liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll. The employers' net pension liability is the liability of contributing employers to members for benefits provided through LASERS. Covered employee payroll is the payroll of all employees that are provided with benefits through the plan.

### C. Schedules of Employer Contributions

The difference between actuarially determined employer contributions and employer contributions received, and the percentage of employer contributions received to covered employee payroll is presented in this schedule.

### D. Schedules of Investment Returns

The annual money-weighted rate of return is shown in this schedule. The money-weighted rate of return is calculated as the internal rate of return on pension plan investments, net of pension plan investment expense. This expresses investment performance adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested throughout the year, measured on daily inputs with expenses measured on an accrual basis.

### E. Schedules of Funding Progress for OPEB

This schedule shows LASERS actuarial accrued liability (AAL) to its retired employees participating in the Office of Group Benefits (OGB) postemployment healthcare plan. The plan is funded on a "pay-as-you-go" basis. Therefore, the ratio of AAL to unfunded AAL (UAAL) is 0.0%. The schedule also represents the percentage of UAAL to covered payroll.

## F. Actuarial Assumptions

Contributions presented in the Schedules of Employer Contributions were determined using the following actuarial assumptions and methods that were recommended by the System actuary, adopted by LASERS Board, and approved by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee.

<b>Valuation Date</b>	June 30, 2017 and 2016																		
<b>Actuarial Cost Method</b>	Entry Age Normal																		
<b>Actuarial Assumptions:</b>																			
<b>Expected Remaining Service Lives</b>	3 years																		
<b>Investment Rate of Return</b>	7.70% and 7.75% per annum for 2017 and 2016, respectively.																		
<b>Inflation Rate</b>	2.75% and 3.0% per annum for 2017 and 2016, respectively.																		
<b>Mortality</b>	<p><b>Non-disabled members</b> - Mortality rates based on the RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table with mortality improvement projected to 2015.</p> <p><b>Disabled members</b> – Mortality rates based on the RP-2000 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table, with no projection for mortality improvement.</p>																		
<b>Termination, Disability, and Retirement</b>	Termination, disability, and retirement assumptions were projected based on a five-year (2009-2013) experience study of the System's members.																		
<b>Salary Increases</b>	Salary increases were projected based on a 2009-2013 experience study of the System's members. The salary increase ranges for specific types of members are:																		
	<table border="0" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><b>Member Type</b></th> <th style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><b>Lower Range</b></th> <th style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><b>Upper Range</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Regular</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">3.8%</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">12.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Judges</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">2.8%</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">5.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Corrections</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">3.4%</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">14.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Hazardous Duty</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">3.4%</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">14.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Wildlife</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">3.4%</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">14.3%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Member Type</b>	<b>Lower Range</b>	<b>Upper Range</b>	Regular	3.8%	12.8%	Judges	2.8%	5.3%	Corrections	3.4%	14.3%	Hazardous Duty	3.4%	14.3%	Wildlife	3.4%	14.3%
<b>Member Type</b>	<b>Lower Range</b>	<b>Upper Range</b>																	
Regular	3.8%	12.8%																	
Judges	2.8%	5.3%																	
Corrections	3.4%	14.3%																	
Hazardous Duty	3.4%	14.3%																	
Wildlife	3.4%	14.3%																	
<b>Cost of Living Adjustments</b>	The present value of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently being paid by the System and includes previously granted cost of living increases. The projected benefit payments do not include provisions for potential future increases not yet authorized by the Board of Trustees as they were deemed not to be substantively automatic.																		

## Schedules of Administrative Expenses

### For the Years Ended June 30, 2017 and 2016

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<b>Administrative Expenses:</b>		
Salaries and Related Benefits	\$ 11,685,917	\$ 12,065,859
Travel Expenses	109,015	114,808
Operating Services	2,630,669	2,837,698
Professional Services	2,078,479	549,741
Acquisitions	<u>570,904</u>	<u>47,499</u>
<b>Total Administrative Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$ 17,074,984</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 15,615,605</u></b>

## Schedules of Investment Expenses

For the Years Ended June 30, 2017 and 2016

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<b>Investment Activities Expenses:</b>		
<b>Alternative Investment Expenses</b>		
Manager Fees	\$ 43,616,373	\$ 40,552,817
Profit Sharing Fees	2,300,663	166,414
<b>Total Alternative Investment Expenses</b>	<u><b>45,917,036</b></u>	<u><b>40,719,231</b></u>
<b>Investment Management Expenses</b>		
Manager Fees	25,291,476	22,911,288
Administrative Expenses	2,209,025	2,218,795
Profit Sharing Fees	702,907	-
Consultant Fees	695,000	680,000
Research and Data Services	493,399	458,503
Investment Performance Management	70,909	82,020
Global Custodian Fees	148,123	153,000
<b>Total Investment Management Expenses</b>	<u><b>29,610,839</b></u>	<u><b>26,503,606</b></u>
<b>Security Lending Expenses</b>		
Securities Lending Management Fees	4,791,690	1,085,805
<b>Total Investment Expenses</b>	<u><u><b>\$ 80,319,565</b></u></u>	<u><u><b>\$ 68,308,642</b></u></u>

## Schedules of Board Compensation

For the Years Ended June 30, 2017 and 2016

Board of Trustees	2017		2016	
	Number of Meetings	Amount	Number of Meetings	Amount
Thomas Bickham <sup>1</sup>	15	\$ -	11	\$ -
Virginina Burton	17	1,275	6	450
Connie Carlton	-	-	10	750
Beverly Hodges	16	1,200	16	1,200
William Kleinpeter	17	1,275	20	1,500
Janice Lansing	13	975	16	1,200
Barbara McManus	-	-	10	750
Lori Pierce <sup>1</sup>	16	-	10	-
Kathy Singleton	14	1,050	21	1,575
Shannon Templet <sup>1</sup>	14	-	9	675
Lorry Trotter	12	900	12	900
<b>Total Compensation</b>		<b>\$ 6,675</b>		<b>\$ 9,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Board member chose not to receive per diem for all or part of their term.

## Schedules of Professional/Consultant Fees

### For the Years Ended June 30, 2017 and 2016

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<b>Accounting and Auditing</b>		
Duplantier, Hrapmann, Hogan & Maher, LLP	\$ 93,745	\$ 93,937
<b>Actuary</b>		
Foster & Foster, Inc	171,080	178,053
Hall Actuarial Associates	3,083	33,916
<b>Legal Fees</b>		
Klausner, Kaufman, Jensen, & Levinson	-	9,581
Laura Denson Holmes	9,100	8,706
Lowenstein Sandler	64,247	53,997
Roedel Parsons Koch Balhoff & McCollister	420	216
Tarcza & Associates LLC	20,570	15,799
<b>Disability Program</b>		
Physician and Other Reviews	51,316	77,499
<b>Other Professional Services</b>		
423 Creative LLC	20,000	10,000
Cognizant	1,639,238	-
NASRA Educational Foundation	-	14,500
Postlethwaite & Netterville	5,500	-
The iConsortium Inc.	-	14,100
VR Election Services	-	20,561
Other Non-Consultant Professionals	180	18,876
<b>Professional Service/Consultant Fees</b>	<u><u>\$ 2,078,479</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 549,741</u></u>