

SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY
403(b) PLAN

DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019

PLAN SPONSOR: SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY
PLAN SPONSOR EIN: 94-2992642
PLAN NUMBER: 001

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT,

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AND

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Independent Auditors' Report, Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

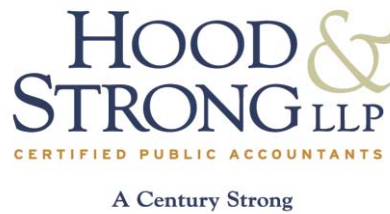
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Independent Auditors' Report

THE BOARD OF REGENTS
SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY 403(b) PLAN
Oakland, California

Report on the Financial Statements

We were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements of the **SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY 403(b) PLAN (the Plan)**, which comprise the statement of net assets available for plan benefits as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for plan benefits for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements.

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.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on conducting the audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Because of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, however, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion.

Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion

As permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Plan Administrator instructed us not to perform, and we did not perform, any auditing procedures with respect to the information summarized in Note 3, which was certified by Fidelity Management Trust Company and TIAA and CREF, the current Custodians of the Plan and Reliance Trust Company, the former Custodian of the Plan, except for comparing this information with the related information included in the financial statements. We have been informed by the Plan Administrator that the Custodians held the Plan's assets and executed transactions. The Plan Administrator has obtained a certification from the current Custodians, Fidelity Management Trust Company as of December 31, 2020 and for the period from August 17, 2020 to December 31, 2020, and TIAA and CREF as of December 31, 2020 and 2019 and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the former Custodian from January 1, 2020, to August 17, 2020, and as of December 31, 2019, that the information provided to the Plan Administrator by the Custodians is complete and accurate.

Disclaimer of Opinion

Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, we have not been able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on these financial statements.

Other Matter – Supplemental Schedule

The supplemental schedule, Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year), as of December 31, 2020 is required by the Department of Labor's (DOL) Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. The supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, we do not express an opinion on the supplemental schedule.

Report on Form and Content in Compliance with DOL Rules and Regulations

The form and content of the information included in the financial statements and supplemental schedule, other than that derived from the information certified by the Custodians, has been audited by us in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and, in our opinion, is presented in compliance with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

Handwritten signature of Hood & Strong LLP in cursive script.

San Francisco, California
September 30, 2021

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Statement of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits

<i>December 31,</i>	2020	2019
Assets:		
Cash	\$ -	\$ 7,683
Investments:		
Investments, at fair value (See Note 4)	69,103,906	57,011,460
Investments, at contract value (See Note 5)	7,884,721	9,677,664
Total investments	76,988,627	66,689,124
Receivables:		
Notes receivable from participants	571,466	505,769
Total receivables	571,466	505,769
Total assets	77,560,093	67,202,576
Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits	\$ 77,560,093	\$ 67,202,576

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits

Year Ended December 31, 2020

Additions to Net Assets Attributed to:**Contributions:**

Participant	\$ 3,336,344
Employer	2,366,457
Rollover	575,026

Investment income:

Net appreciation in fair value of investments	9,645,601
Interest and dividends	1,120,139
Other investment loss	(96,119)
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	22,360

Total additions	16,969,808
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Deductions from Net Assets Attributed to:

Benefits paid to participants	6,540,941
Administrative expenses	71,350

Total deductions	6,612,291
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Net Increase	10,357,517
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Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits:

Beginning of year	67,202,576
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End of year	\$ 77,560,093
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See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Note 1 - Description of the Plan:

The following description of the Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan, (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

a. General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan that was originally adopted on January 1, 2001 and restated on January 1, 2009. The Plan is sponsored by Samuel Merritt University (the University) to provide benefits to eligible employees, as defined in the Plan document. The Plan is a 403(b) plan that allows for investments in annuity contracts and in registered investment companies. The Ad Hoc Investment Subcommittee of the Finance Committee appointed by the University's Board of Regents provides oversight for the Plan. The Plan Administrator believes that the Plan is currently designed and operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code and the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended.

On September 16, 2019, the Board of Regents approved to engage Fidelity Investments and to grandfather existing plan participants who have a balance with TIAA and CREF as soon as administratively practicable after January 1, 2020. In addition, the Board of Regents approved the following:

- Replacing the Standard as record keeper and investment platform for the Plan
- Transferring Plan assets held by the Reliance Trust Company to Fidelity Management Trust Company
- Amending the Plan document to limit the availability of TIAA and CREF as an investment provider

On December 20, 2019, the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act ("SECURE Act") was enacted and signed into law. The SECURE Act changes the age requirement for required minimum distributions from age 70 ½ to age 72 effective after December 31, 2019. The University intends to amend the plan document by the last day of the plan year beginning on or after January 1, 2022.

On February 28, 2020, the Board of Regents approved the restatement of the Plan documents effective January 1, 2010 to conform to legislative requirements pursuant to IRS Revenue Procedure 2019-39.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”) was enacted and signed into law. The CARES Act provided plan sponsors the ability to offer participants penalty-free distributions up to \$100,000, increased loan limits and deferment of loan payments. The CARES Act also temporarily waived required minimum distributions for terminated participants in calendar year 2020. The University has implemented these provisions and intends to formally execute the required plan amendments reflecting their implementation by the last day of the plan year beginning on or after January 1, 2022.

Effective August 17, 2020, the Plan was amended to add a Roth after-tax option, remove the special catch-up provision and auto-enroll feature for eligible new hires at a 5% pre-tax contribution rate. In addition, Fidelity Investments will become the primary provider of administrative services for the Plan and TIAA and CREF will only exist for employees that have an account balance at TIAA and CREF as of August 17, 2020. The transfer of assets from Reliance Trust Company to Fidelity Management Trust Company occurred on August 17, 2020.

b. Eligibility

The Plan covers substantially all regular non-student full-time or part-time employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement. To receive a matching contribution and employer non-elective contribution, eligible employees must work for a period of twelve months and complete 1,000 hours of service during the Plan eligibility period.

Effective January 1, 2017, the Plan document was amended to clarify employees deemed as excluded employees.

c. Contributions

Participants may make salary deferral contributions of their eligible pre-tax compensation, not to exceed the amount allowable under current income tax regulations. Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. In addition, employees that have worked at least fifteen years for the University may make a special catch-up contribution as described in the plan document. Contributions are subject to limitations under current income tax regulations.

Participants may also contribute amounts representing lump sum distributions from other qualified defined benefit or contribution plans.

Employer matching contributions are non-discretionary; the matching limit on participants’ salary deferral contributions is 100% up to 2% of participants’ eligible compensation. The employer makes a non-elective employer contribution of 5% of the participant’s eligible compensation.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

d. Participant Accounts

The Plan's assets are held in separate funds with Fidelity Management Trust Company, TIAA and CREF, and Reliance Trust Company (prior to August 2020). Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and allocations of the University's contributions and plan earnings or losses. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as defined.

e. Participant Investment Options

Upon enrollment in the Plan, a participant directs their contributions to any of the available investment options. If the participant does not direct their contribution, the contributions will be invested in the Fidelity Freedom Blend Fund closest to the participant's retirement age which meets ERISA standards as a Qualified Default Investment Alternative. Participants may change their investment options as allowed by their investment and contract accounts throughout the year via the third-party administrator's telephone system or website.

f. Vesting

Participants are immediately vested in their contributions and the University's matching and non-elective employer contributions plus earnings thereon.

g. Notes Receivable from Participants and Plan Loans

Notes Receivable from Participants

The Plan allows participants to borrow from their non-TIAA and CREF accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or fifty percent of the vested portion of their account balance, subject to plan provisions. Loan terms range from one to five years, except for loans to purchase a primary residence which may not exceed 15 years. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's non-TIAA and CREF account and the interest rate is set at the prime rate as specified in the Wall Street Journal, plus one percent at the time of the loan. Principal and interest is paid ratably through payroll deductions. A participant may only have one loan outstanding at a time. As of December 31, 2020, interest rates on outstanding loans ranged from 4.25% to 6.50%.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Plan Loans (Policy Loans)

Participants may also borrow directly from funds owned by TIAA and CREF and not directly from the participant accounts. TIAA and CREF requires adequate security for the loans issued and a portion of the participant's account is reserved, or held in collateral, to cover 110% of the outstanding loan in case of default. Interest rates charged on these loans may be fixed or variable and were determined by the terms of the controlling contract. Repayments on these loans, including principal and interest, are made directly by the participant to TIAA and CREF and do not flow through the Plan. The Plan Administrator has concluded that these loans are not plan assets and that such arrangements are exempt transactions. As of December 31, 2020 and 2019, the outstanding plan loan balances were \$34,092 and \$9,396, respectively. As of December 31, 2020, the plan loans bear interest that range from 4.00% to 5.55%.

h. Payment of Benefits

Upon termination of service due to death, disability or retirement, a participant may receive a lump-sum amount equal to the value of the participant's interest in his or her account. The Plan allows for hardship withdrawals by the participant as outlined in the plan document. The Plan also permits in-service distributions for those participants who have attained the age of 59 1/2 as outlined in the Plan Document.

i. Plan Custodians

Fidelity Management Trust Company, TIAA and CREF, and Standard served as the record keepers for the Plan during 2020. Fidelity Management Trust Company is the Custodian of the Plan assets record kept by Fidelity Investments, TIAA and CREF is the Custodian of the Plan assets record kept by TIAA and CREF, and Reliance Trust Company was the Custodian of the Plan assets record kept by Standard.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

a. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared under the accrual method of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

b. Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments of the Plan are held by the Custodians and invested based solely upon instructions received from participants. The Plan's investments are reported at fair value as of the last day of the Plan year, except for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts (Note 5) which are reported at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measure for the portion of the net assets available for benefits of a defined contribution plan attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants normally would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The University's Ad Hoc Investment Subcommittee of the Finance Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies, utilizing information provided by the investment advisors, the issuer and/or Custodian of the Plan. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is accrued on the ex-dividend date.

The net appreciation of investments in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits includes both the unrealized appreciation in the aggregate current value of investments and realized gains and losses on sale of investments.

The market volatility of equity-based investments could substantially impact the value of such investments at any given time. It is likely that the value of the Plan's investments, both in total and in individual participant accounts, has fluctuated since December 31, 2020.

Management fees and operating expenses charged to the Plan for investments are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and are not separately reflected. Consequently, management fees and operating expenses are reflected as a reduction of net appreciation in fair value.

c. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires the Plan Administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

d. Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred. If a participant ceases to make loan repayments and the Plan Administrator deems the participant loan to be in default, the participant loan balance is reduced and a benefit payment is recorded based upon the terms of the plan document. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2020 or 2019.

e. Benefit Payments

Benefits to participants are recorded when paid. As of December 31, 2020, there were no benefits processed and approved for payment but not paid.

f. Administrative Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Plan, unless otherwise paid by the University. Expenses that are paid by the University are excluded from these financial statements. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments.

Effective January 1, 2018, Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America (TIAA) provides certain administrative services to the Plan pursuant to a Revenue Credit Account Arrangement Agreement (the Agreement) between the University and TIAA. TIAA receives revenue from mutual fund service providers for services TIAA provides to the funds. This revenue is used to offset certain amounts owed to TIAA for its administrative services to the Plan.

If the revenue received by TIAA from such mutual fund service providers exceeds amounts owed under the Agreement, TIAA remits the excess to the Plan's trust on a quarterly basis. Such amounts may be allocated to participants at TIAA or be applied to pay Plan administrative expenses not covered by the Agreement.

g. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In August 2018, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2018-13, Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Disclosure Framework—Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurement, which modifies the disclosure requirements for fair value measurements by removing, modifying, or adding certain disclosures. ASU 2018-13 is effective for all entities for fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2019. The Plan adopted the ASU for the Plan year 2020. The adoption of this standard did not have a material effect on these financial statements.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

h. Subsequent Events

The Plan Administrator has evaluated subsequent events from December 31, 2020 through September 30, 2021, the date the financial statements were available to be issued, and there were no material subsequent events that required recognition or disclosure.

Note 3 - Information Certified by Fidelity Management Trust Company, TIAA and CREF, and Reliance Trust Company:

The following is a summary of the Plan's asset information as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and for the year ended December 31, 2020, included throughout the Plan's financial statements and supplemental schedule, that was prepared from information provided by Fidelity Management Trust Company, TIAA and CREF, and Reliance Trust Company (the Custodians) and furnished to the Plan Administrator. The Plan Administrator has obtained certifications from the Custodians that information provided to the Plan Administrator by the Custodians, related to the following assets are complete and accurate. Accordingly, as permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the United States Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, the Plan Administrator instructed the Plan's independent auditors not to perform any auditing procedures with respect to information which appears throughout the financial statements and supplemental schedule related to the following assets:

	December 31,	
	2020	2019
Investments, at fair value:		
Mutual funds	\$ 43,785,354	\$ 36,017,109
Variable annuity contracts	\$ 25,318,552	\$ 20,994,351
Investments, at contract value		
Stable asset fund – fully benefit responsive	\$ -	\$ 3,059,312
Fixed annuity contracts – fully benefit responsive	\$ 7,884,721	\$ 6,618,352
Notes receivable from participants	\$ 571,466	\$ -

The Custodians also certified to the completeness and accuracy of \$9,645,601 of net appreciation in fair value of Plan assets, \$6,016 of interest from notes receivable from participants, and \$1,120,139 of interest and dividends investment income related to the aforementioned assets for the year ended December 31, 2020.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Note 4 - Fair Value Measurements:

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820 are described as follows:

Level 1: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets the plan has the ability to access.

Level 2: Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis and recognized in the accompanying Statement of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits, as well as the general classification of such assets pursuant to the valuation hierarchy. There have been no changes in the methodologies used as of December 31, 2020 and 2019.

Mutual funds: Valued at daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value (NAV) and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Variable annuity contracts: Valued based on the net asset values of underlying securities held by the contract at year end, which are generally valued using market quotations or prices obtained from independent pricing sources that may employ various pricing methods to value the investments including matrix pricing.

The CREF Accounts are valued at the daily unit value published on NASDAQ. The value of the unit holder's investment rises and falls with the return on the underlying assets in the account. The CREF variable annuity accounts consist of eight investment portfolios: the Stock, Global Equities, Growth, Equity Index, Bond Market, Inflation-Linked Bond, Social Choice, and Money Market accounts.

The Plan may redeem units at fair value on any day the New York Stock Exchange is open for business. Participants cannot redeem units from the CREF portfolios (with the exception of the Money Market account) for 90 days if a purchase, sale, and/or repurchase is made within that account within a 60-day period.

The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future values. Furthermore, while the Plan Administrator believes that its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following table sets forth by level within the fair value hierarchy the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2020 and 2019. Classification within the fair value hierarchy table is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

December 31, 2020	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Assets:				
Mutual funds	\$ 43,785,354	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43,785,354
Variable annuities	25,318,552	-	-	25,318,552
Total assets in the fair value hierarchy	\$ 69,103,906	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 69,103,906

December 31, 2019	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Assets:				
Mutual funds	\$ 36,017,109	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,017,109
Variable annuities	20,994,351	-	-	20,994,351
Total assets in the fair value hierarchy	\$ 57,011,460	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,011,460

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

To assess the appropriate classification of investments within the fair value hierarchy, the availability of market data is monitored. Changes in economic conditions or valuation techniques may require the transfer of investments from one fair value level to another. In such instances, the transfer is reported at the beginning of the period.

The Plan Administrator evaluates the significance of transfers between levels based upon the nature of the investment and size of the transfer relative to total net assets available for plan benefits. For the year ended December 31, 2020, there were no transfers in or out of Level 3.

Note 5 - Fully Benefit-Responsive Contracts:

The Plan has fully benefit responsive contracts with TIAA and Standard. The traditional investment contract held by the Plan with TIAA maintains the contributions in a general account, under these contracts are sub-contracts, which are fully benefit responsive. The account is credited with earnings on the underlying investments and charged for participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. Each premium allocated to the fixed annuity investment contract buys a guaranteed minimum amount of lifetime income based on the rate schedule in effect at the time the premium is credited.

The stable value fund held by the Plan with Standard maintains the contributions in a general account, and there are no particular segregated or identifiable assets ascribed to the plan's investment. Net deposits and interest credited become liabilities against Standard Insurance Company on the plan's behalf.

For investment contracts that are fully benefit responsive, contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for plan benefits attributable to the guaranteed investment contract. These contracts are included in the financial statements at contract value, as reported to the Plan by TIAA and Standard. Contract value represents contributions made under the contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investment at contract value.

The Plan Administrator is not aware of reserves against contract value for credit risk of either contract issuer or otherwise. TIAA indicate that contract value approximates fair value for these investments at December 31, 2020 and 2019. Standard indicated that contract value approximates fair value for this investment at December 31, 2019. The crediting interest rate is based on a formula agreed upon with the issuer, but it may not be less than 3% for the contract held with TIAA and may not be less than 1% for the contract held with Standard. Such interest rates are reviewed and re-set by TIAA on an annual basis and reviewed and re-set by Standard on a quarterly basis. The contracts also offer the opportunity for additional amounts in excess of the guaranteed rate. When declared by TIAA, additional amounts remain in effect for the 12-month period that begins each March 1.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Certain events might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the issuer. Such events may be different under each contract and include the following: (1) amendments to the Plan documents (including complete or partial Plan termination or merger with another plan), (2) changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options or deletion of equity wash provisions, (3) bankruptcy of the Plan sponsor or other Plan sponsor events (for example, divestitures or spin-offs of a subsidiary) that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, (4) the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction exemption under ERISA, and (5) premature termination of the contract.

No events are probable of occurring that might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the contract issuers and that also would limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the participants.

In addition, certain events allow the issuers to terminate the contracts with the Plan and settle at an amount different from contract value. Those events may be different under each contract. Examples of such events include the following: (1) an uncured violation of the Plan's investment guidelines, (2) a breach of material obligation under the contract, (3) a material misrepresentation, and (4) a material amendment to the agreements without the consent of the issuer.

For accumulating Group Supplemental Retirement Annuity contracts held with TIAA, deemed fully benefit-responsive contracts amounted to \$7,884,721 and \$6,618,352 as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

For contracts held with Standard, deemed fully benefit-responsive contracts amounted to \$0 and \$3,059,312 as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

Note 6 - Related Party Transactions and Party-in-Interest Transactions:

Certain Plan investments in fixed and variable annuity contracts are managed by the Custodians. Such an arrangement, while considered a party-in-interest transaction under ERISA regulations, is permitted under the provisions of the Plan and is specifically exempt from the prohibition of party-in-interest transactions under ERISA.

Certain administrative functions are performed by officers or employees of the University. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan. Certain other administrative expenses may be covered by the Plan as stated in the Plan agreement.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Note 7 - Plan Termination:

Although the University has not expressed any intent to do so, the University has the right to amend or terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA at any time. All participants are currently 100% vested in their entire account. In the event the Plan is terminated, participant balances will be distributed in accordance with the Plan Document and ERISA.

Note 8 - Income Tax Status:

The Plan has been designed to qualify under Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code (Code). The Plan is required to operate in conformity with the Code to maintain the tax-exempt status for Plan participants under Section 403(b). The Plan Document is a 403(b)-volume submitter plan as established and sponsored by Fidelity Workplace Services in its capacity as a volume submitter practitioner. The Plan Administrator believes that the Plan, as amended, is currently designed and operating in accordance with the applicable requirements of Section 403(b) of the IRC and, therefore, believes that the Plan is qualified, and the related accounts are tax-exempt. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements.

U.S. GAAP requires plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that is more likely than not would be sustained upon examination. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. Management evaluated the Plan's tax positions and concluded that the Plan had maintained its tax-exempt status and had taken no uncertain tax positions that require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements. Therefore, no provision or liability for income taxes has been included in the financial statements.

Note 9 - Risks and Uncertainties:

The Plan provides for various investment options in any combination of the investments offered by the Plan. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market fluctuations and credit risks. Due to the nature of risks associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the level of risks in the near term would materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the Statement of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits and the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits.

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

At December 31, 2020 and 2019, one investment held with TIAA and CREF represented approximately 10% or more of the Plan's total investments. As such, this is considered to be a concentration of credit risk.

Investments	2020		2019	
	Value	Percentage of Total Investments	Value	Percentage of Total Investments
TIAA Traditional Annuity	\$ 7,884,721	10%	\$ 6,618,352	10%

Samuel Merritt University 403(b) Plan

Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Sponsor: Samuel Merritt University

Plan Sponsor EIN: 94-2992642

Plan Number: 001

(See Independent Auditors' Report)

December 31, 2020

- (a) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party
 (b) Description of investment, including maturity date, rate of interest, par or maturity value
 (c) Cost
 (d) Current value

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
Registered Investment Companies:			
Cohen & Steers Real Estate Securities Fund, Inc.			
Class Institutional	Mutual Fund	\$	21,507
Lazard Emerging Markets Equity Portfolio Institutional	Mutual Fund		23,285
Dodge & Cox Income Fund	Mutual Fund		2,415,832
Northern Small Cap Value Fund	Mutual Fund		6,383
T. Rowe Price Institutional Large Cap Core Growth Fund	Mutual Fund		7,137,285
Parnassus Core Equity Fund - Institutional	Mutual Fund		52,746
Dodge & Cox Stock Fund	Mutual Fund		1,898,921
American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund Class R-6	Mutual Fund		2,625,585
* Fidelity Investments Money Market - Money Market Portfolio - Class I	Mutual Fund		35,284
* Fidelity Balanced Fund - Class K	Mutual Fund		4,555,826
* Fidelity U.S. Bond Index Fund	Mutual Fund		3,577,876
* Fidelity 500 Index Fund	Mutual Fund		6,263,019
* Fidelity Global ex U.S. Index Fund	Mutual Fund		438,424
* Fidelity Extended Market Index Fund	Mutual Fund		4,686,203
* Fidelity Inflation-Protected Bond Index Fund	Mutual Fund		78,659
* Fidelity Investments Money Market Government Portfolio - Institutional Class	Mutual Fund		2,677,299
* Fidelity Small Cap Growth K6 Fund	Mutual Fund		190,810
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2060 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		17,478
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2055 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		177,480
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2050 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		458,467
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2045 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		636,480
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2040 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		573,544
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2035 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		1,431,212
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2030 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		999,167
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2025 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		862,289
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2020 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		810,080
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2015 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		864,712
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2010 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		185,488
* Fidelity Freedom Blend 2005 Fund - Class K6	Mutual Fund		84,013
* CREF Money Market	Variable Annuity		1,296,411
* CREF Stock	Variable Annuity		6,106,686
* CREF Social Choice	Variable Annuity		842,414
* CREF Bond Market	Variable Annuity		2,870,706
* CREF Global Equities	Variable Annuity		3,847,682
* CREF Growth	Variable Annuity		6,959,871
* CREF Equity Index	Variable Annuity		3,050,287
* CREF Inflation-Linked Bond	Variable Annuity		344,495
Fixed Annuity Contract:			
* TIAA Traditional Annuity	Fixed Annuity		7,884,721
** Notes Receivable from Participants	Interest rates of 4.25% - 6.50%		571,466
		\$	77,560,093

* Managed by Party-in-Interest

** Party-in-Interest as defined by ERISA

Cost information omitted for participant-directed investments