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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div>Form 5500</div> <div>Department of the Treasury<br/>Internal Revenue Service</div> <div>Department of Labor<br/>Employee Benefits Security<br/>Administration</div> <div>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</div> | <div>Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan</div> <div>This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).</div> <div>▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</div> | <div>OMB Nos. 1210-0110<br/>1210-0089</div> <div>2023</div> <div>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</div> |
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|                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Part I                                                                                     | Annual Report Identification Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| A                                                                                          | This return/report is for: <div><div><input type="checkbox"/> a multiemployer plan</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a single-employer plan</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> a DFE (specify) _____</div></div> |
| B                                                                                          | This return/report is: <div><div><input type="checkbox"/> the first return/report</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> the final return/report</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> an amended return/report</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)</div></div>                                                                                                 |
| C                                                                                          | If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. .... ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| D                                                                                          | Check box if filing under: <div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Form 5558</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> automatic extension</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> the DFVC program</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> special extension (enter description) 3617-EM HURRICANE HELEN NC-2024-08</div></div>                                                                                         |
| E                                                                                          | If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. .... ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Part II | Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1a      | Name of plan<br>MARS HILL UNIVERSITY DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1b      | Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1c      | Effective date of plan<br>12/05/1975                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 2a      | Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan)<br>Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box)<br>City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions)<br>MARS HILL UNIVERSITY<br><br>100 ATHLETIC STREET<br>MARS HILL, NC 28754 |
| 2b      | Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br>56-0554207                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 2c      | Plan Sponsor's telephone number<br>828-689-1275                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 2d      | Business code (see instructions)<br>611000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

|           |                                                   |            |                                                              |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| SIGN HERE | Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature. | 06/05/2025 | JENNIE MATTHEWS                                              |
|           | Signature of plan administrator                   | Date       | Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator       |
| SIGN HERE |                                                   |            |                                                              |
|           | Signature of employer/plan sponsor                | Date       | Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor |
| SIGN HERE |                                                   |            |                                                              |
|           | Signature of DFE                                  | Date       | Enter name of individual signing as DFE                      |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN<br><br><b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number<br><br><div style="background-color: #cccccc; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>                                                                                            |
| <b>4</b> If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report:<br><b>a</b> Sponsor's name<br><b>c</b> Plan Name                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>4b</b> EIN<br><br><b>4d</b> PN                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>5</b> 242                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a(1)</b> , <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ).<br><b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year .....<br><b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year .....<br><b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits .....<br><b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits .....<br><b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> . .....<br><b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. ....<br><b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> . .....<br><b>g(1)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) .....<br><b>g(2)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) .....<br><b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested..... | <div style="background-color: #cccccc; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div><br><b>6a(1)</b> 242<br><b>6a(2)</b> 251<br><b>6b</b> 108<br><b>6c</b> 337<br><b>6d</b> 696<br><b>6e</b> 0<br><b>6f</b> 696<br><b>6g(1)</b> 636<br><b>6g(2)</b> 628<br><b>6h</b> 2 |
| <b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item).....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>7</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

**8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2L 2M 3D

**b** If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>9a</b> Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)<br>(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance<br>(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts<br>(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust<br>(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor | <b>9b</b> Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)<br>(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance<br>(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts<br>(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust<br>(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**10** Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

**a Pension Schedules**

- (1) ☒ **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2) ☐ **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3) ☐ **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (4) ☐ **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached \_\_\_\_\_
- (5) ☐ **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

**b General Schedules**

- (1) ☒ **H** (Financial Information)
- (2) ☐ **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3) ☒ **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 1
- (4) ☒ **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5) ☒ **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6) ☐ **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

**Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)**

**11a** If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ..... ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

**11b** Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ..... ☐ Yes ☐ No

**11c** Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2023 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2023 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code \_\_\_\_\_

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div>SCHEDULE A</div> <div>(Form 5500)</div> <div>Department of the Treasury<br/>Internal Revenue Service</div> <div>Department of Labor<br/>Employee Benefits Security Administration</div> <div>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</div> | <div>Insurance Information</div> <div>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</div> <div>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</div> <div>▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).</div> | <div>OMB No. 1210-0110</div> <div>2023</div> <div>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</div> |
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|                                                                                            |                                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023 |                                                      |     |
| A Name of plan<br>MARS HILL UNIVERSITY DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN                | B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶                     | 001 |
| C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500<br>MARS HILL UNIVERSITY             | D Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br>56-0554207 |     |

|        |                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Part I | Information Concerning Insurance Contract Coverage, Fees, and Commissions | Provide information for each contract on a separate Schedule A. Individual contracts grouped as a unit in Parts II and III can be reported on a single Schedule A. |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier  
TIAA-CREF

| (b) EIN    | (c) NAIC code | (d) Contract or identification number | (e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year | Policy or contract year |            |
|------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
|            |               |                                       |                                                                             | (f) From                | (g) To     |
| 13-1624203 | 69345         | 500330                                | 320                                                                         | 01/01/2023              | 12/31/2023 |

2 Insurance fee and commission information. Enter the total fees and total commissions paid. List in line 3 the agents, brokers, and other persons in descending order of the amount paid.

|                                      |                               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) Total amount of commissions paid | (b) Total amount of fees paid |
|                                      |                               |

3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

| (b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid | Fees and other commissions paid |             | (e) Organization code |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
|                                               | (c) Amount                      | (d) Purpose |                       |
|                                               |                                 |             |                       |

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

| (b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid | Fees and other commissions paid |             | (e) Organization code |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
|                                               | (c) Amount                      | (d) Purpose |                       |
|                                               |                                 |             |                       |

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**(a)** Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

---

| <b>(b)</b> Amount of sales and base commissions paid | Fees and other commissions paid |                    | <b>(e)</b><br>Organization code |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
|                                                      | <b>(c)</b> Amount               | <b>(d)</b> Purpose |                                 |
|                                                      |                                 |                    |                                 |

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**(a)** Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

---

| <b>(b)</b> Amount of sales and base commissions paid | Fees and other commissions paid |                    | <b>(e)</b><br>Organization code |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
|                                                      | <b>(c)</b> Amount               | <b>(d)</b> Purpose |                                 |
|                                                      |                                 |                    |                                 |

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**(a)** Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

---

| <b>(b)</b> Amount of sales and base commissions paid | Fees and other commissions paid |                    | <b>(e)</b><br>Organization code |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
|                                                      | <b>(c)</b> Amount               | <b>(d)</b> Purpose |                                 |
|                                                      |                                 |                    |                                 |

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**(a)** Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

---

| <b>(b)</b> Amount of sales and base commissions paid | Fees and other commissions paid |                    | <b>(e)</b><br>Organization code |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
|                                                      | <b>(c)</b> Amount               | <b>(d)</b> Purpose |                                 |
|                                                      |                                 |                    |                                 |

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**(a)** Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

---

| <b>(b)</b> Amount of sales and base commissions paid | Fees and other commissions paid |                    | <b>(e)</b><br>Organization code |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
|                                                      | <b>(c)</b> Amount               | <b>(d)</b> Purpose |                                 |
|                                                      |                                 |                    |                                 |

**Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information**

Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

|                                                                                                        |          |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------|
| <b>4</b> Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end ..... | <b>4</b> | 9420989 |
| <b>5</b> Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....    | <b>5</b> | 9114285 |

**6** Contracts With Allocated Funds:**a** State the basis of premium rates ▶**b** Premiums paid to carrier .....**6b****c** Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year.....**6c****d** If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount. ....**6d**

Specify nature of costs ▶

**e** Type of contract: (1) ☐ individual policies (2) ☐ group deferred annuity(3) ☐ other (specify) ▶**f** If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶ ☐**7** Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)**a** Type of contract: (1) ☐ deposit administration (2) ☐ immediate participation guarantee(3) ☒ guaranteed investment (4) ☐ other ▶**b** Balance at the end of the previous year .....**7b**

9606662

**c** Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....**7c(1)**

15614

(2) Dividends and credits .....

**7c(2)**

0

(3) Interest credited during the year .....

**7c(3)**

447030

(4) Transferred from separate account.....

**7c(4)**

260009

(5) Other (specify below) .....

**7c(5)**

10342

▶ MISC

(6) Total additions .....

**7c(6)**

732995

**d** Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**) .....**7d**

10339657

**e** Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year .....

**7e(1)**

553589

(2) Administration charge made by carrier .....

**7e(2)**

(3) Transferred to separate account.....

**7e(3)**

363220

(4) Other (specify below) .....

**7e(4)**

1859

▶ MISC

(5) Total deductions .....

**7e(5)**

918668

**f** Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**) .....**7f**

9420989

**Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information**

If more than one contract covers the same group of employees of the same employer(s) or members of the same employee organizations(s), the information may be combined for reporting purposes if such contracts are experience-rated as a unit. Where contracts cover individual employees, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

**8** Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

- a** ☐ Health (other than dental or vision)     
 **b** ☐ Dental     
 **c** ☐ Vision     
 **d** ☐ Life insurance  
**e** ☐ Temporary disability (accident and sickness)     
 **f** ☐ Long-term disability     
 **g** ☐ Supplemental unemployment     
 **h** ☐ Prescription drug  
**i** ☐ Stop loss (large deductible)     
 **j** ☐ HMO contract     
 **k** ☐ PPO contract     
 **l** ☐ Indemnity contract  
**m** ☐ Other (specify) ▶

**9** Experience-rated contracts:

|                                                                                                                                                   |                 |                 |   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| <b>a</b> Premiums: (1) Amount received .....                                                                                                      | <b>9a(1)</b>    |                 |   |
| (2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid.....                                                                                             | <b>9a(2)</b>    |                 |   |
| (3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve .....                                                                                         | <b>9a(3)</b>    |                 |   |
| (4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3)).....                                                                                                                 |                 | <b>9a(4)</b>    | 0 |
| <b>b</b> Benefit charges (1) Claims paid.....                                                                                                     | <b>9b(1)</b>    |                 |   |
| (2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves .....                                                                                                   | <b>9b(2)</b>    |                 |   |
| (3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2)).....                                                                                                        |                 | <b>9b(3)</b>    | 0 |
| (4) Claims charged .....                                                                                                                          |                 | <b>9b(4)</b>    |   |
| <b>c</b> Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --                                                                     |                 |                 |   |
| (A) Commissions .....                                                                                                                             | <b>9c(1)(A)</b> |                 |   |
| (B) Administrative service or other fees .....                                                                                                    | <b>9c(1)(B)</b> |                 |   |
| (C) Other specific acquisition costs .....                                                                                                        | <b>9c(1)(C)</b> |                 |   |
| (D) Other expenses .....                                                                                                                          | <b>9c(1)(D)</b> |                 |   |
| (E) Taxes .....                                                                                                                                   | <b>9c(1)(E)</b> |                 |   |
| (F) Charges for risks or other contingencies.....                                                                                                 | <b>9c(1)(F)</b> |                 |   |
| (G) Other retention charges .....                                                                                                                 | <b>9c(1)(G)</b> |                 |   |
| (H) Total retention .....                                                                                                                         |                 | <b>9c(1)(H)</b> | 0 |
| (2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were <input type="checkbox"/> paid in cash, or <input type="checkbox"/> credited.)..... |                 | <b>9c(2)</b>    |   |
| <b>d</b> Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement .....                               |                 | <b>9d(1)</b>    |   |
| (2) Claim reserves .....                                                                                                                          |                 | <b>9d(2)</b>    |   |
| (3) Other reserves.....                                                                                                                           |                 | <b>9d(3)</b>    |   |
| <b>e</b> Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).) .....                                          |                 | <b>9e</b>       |   |

**10** Nonexperience-rated contracts:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |            |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--|
| <b>a</b> Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier .....                                                                                                                                                           | <b>10a</b> |  |
| <b>b</b> If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount ..... | <b>10b</b> |  |

Specify nature of costs.

**Part IV Provision of Information**

**11** Did the insurance company fail to provide any information necessary to complete Schedule A?..... ☐ Yes ☒ No

**12** If the answer to line 11 is "Yes," specify the information not provided. ▶

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <div>SCHEDULE C</div> <div>(Form 5500)</div> <div>Department of the Treasury<br/>Internal Revenue Service</div> <div>Department of Labor<br/>Employee Benefits Security Administration</div> <div>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</div> | <div>Service Provider Information</div> <div>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</div> <div>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</div> | OMB No. 1210-0110                       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 2023                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | This Form is Open to Public Inspection. |

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

|                                                                                |                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| A Name of plan<br>MARS HILL UNIVERSITY DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN    | B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶<br>001              |
| C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500<br>MARS HILL UNIVERSITY | D Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br>56-0554207 |

Part I

Service Provider Information (see instructions)

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

- a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions).. . . . . ☒ Yes ☐ No
- b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

TIAA

13-1624203

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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**(b)** Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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**(b)** Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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**(b)** Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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**2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation.** Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

MILLENNIUM ADVISORY SERVICES, INC.

54-2020086

| (b)<br>Service Code(s) | (c)<br>Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest | (d)<br>Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-. | (e)<br>Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor) | (f)<br>Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures? | (g)<br>Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-. | (h)<br>Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount? |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26 27 50               | ADVISOR                                                                                           | 83602                                                                  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                 | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                     |

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

TIAA-TEACHERS INSURANCE AND ANNUITY

13-1624203

| (b)<br>Service Code(s) | (c)<br>Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest | (d)<br>Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-. | (e)<br>Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor) | (f)<br>Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures? | (g)<br>Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-. | (h)<br>Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount? |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15 50                  | RECORDKEEPER                                                                                      | 31061                                                                  | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                  | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                            | 0                                                                                                                                                                               | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                          |

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

TRG ADVISORS, INC

82-3871756

| (b)<br>Service Code(s) | (c)<br>Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest | (d)<br>Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-. | (e)<br>Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor) | (f)<br>Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures? | (g)<br>Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-. | (h)<br>Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount? |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 27 31 50               | ADVISOR                                                                                           | 17255                                                                  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                 | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                     |

**Part I Service Provider Information (continued)**

**3.** If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

| (a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2             | (b) Service Codes<br>(see instructions)                                                                                                                            | (c) Enter amount of indirect compensation |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
|                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                           |
| (d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation | (e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation. |                                           |
|                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                           |
| (a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2             | (b) Service Codes<br>(see instructions)                                                                                                                            | (c) Enter amount of indirect compensation |
|                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                           |
| (d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation | (e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation. |                                           |
|                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                           |
| (a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2             | (b) Service Codes<br>(see instructions)                                                                                                                            | (c) Enter amount of indirect compensation |
|                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                           |
| (d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation | (e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation. |                                           |
|                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                           |

**Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information**

**4** Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

| (a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions) | (b) Nature of Service Code(s) | (c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                          |                               |                                                                                     |
| (a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions) | (b) Nature of Service Code(s) | (c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide |
|                                                                          |                               |                                                                                     |
| (a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions) | (b) Nature of Service Code(s) | (c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide |
|                                                                          |                               |                                                                                     |
| (a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions) | (b) Nature of Service Code(s) | (c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide |
|                                                                          |                               |                                                                                     |
| (a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions) | (b) Nature of Service Code(s) | (c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide |
|                                                                          |                               |                                                                                     |
| (a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions) | (b) Nature of Service Code(s) | (c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide |
|                                                                          |                               |                                                                                     |

**Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)**  
(complete as many entries as needed)

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>a</b> Name:     | <b>b</b> EIN:       |
| <b>c</b> Position: |                     |
| <b>d</b> Address:  | <b>e</b> Telephone: |
|                    |                     |

Explanation:

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>a</b> Name:     | <b>b</b> EIN:       |
| <b>c</b> Position: |                     |
| <b>d</b> Address:  | <b>e</b> Telephone: |
|                    |                     |

Explanation:

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>a</b> Name:     | <b>b</b> EIN:       |
| <b>c</b> Position: |                     |
| <b>d</b> Address:  | <b>e</b> Telephone: |
|                    |                     |

Explanation:

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>a</b> Name:     | <b>b</b> EIN:       |
| <b>c</b> Position: |                     |
| <b>d</b> Address:  | <b>e</b> Telephone: |
|                    |                     |

Explanation:

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>a</b> Name:     | <b>b</b> EIN:       |
| <b>c</b> Position: |                     |
| <b>d</b> Address:  | <b>e</b> Telephone: |
|                    |                     |

Explanation:



**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity  
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or  
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity  
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or  
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity  
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or  
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity  
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103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity  
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or  
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity  
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or  
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity  
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or  
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity  
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or  
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity  
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or  
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity  
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or  
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**Part II** **Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs, other than DCGs)**

(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans. DCGs must report each participating plan using Schedule DCG.)

**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of  
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>SCHEDULE H</b><br><b>(Form 5500)</b><br><br>Department of the Treasury<br>Internal Revenue Service<br><br>Department of Labor<br>Employee Benefits Security Administration<br><br>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation | <b>Financial Information</b><br><br>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).<br><br><b>► File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b> | OMB No. 1210-0110                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>2023</b>                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b> |

|                                                                                                          |                                                                    |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning <b>01/01/2023</b> and ending <b>12/31/2023</b> |                                                                    |            |
| <b>A</b> Name of plan<br><b>MARS HILL UNIVERSITY DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN</b>                | <b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) <b>►</b>                     | <b>001</b> |
|                                                                                                          |                                                                    |            |
| <b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500<br><b>MARS HILL UNIVERSITY</b>             | <b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br><b>56-0554207</b> |            |

|               |                                      |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Part I</b> | <b>Asset and Liability Statement</b> |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|

**1** Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

| Assets                                                                                             |                 | (a) Beginning of Year | (b) End of Year |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....                                                      | <b>1a</b>       |                       |                 |
| <b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):                                       |                 |                       |                 |
| <b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....                                                            | <b>1b(1)</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....                                                         | <b>1b(2)</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>(3)</b> Other .....                                                                             | <b>1b(3)</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>c</b> General investments:                                                                      |                 |                       |                 |
| <b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....   | <b>1c(1)</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....                                                        | <b>1c(2)</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):                            |                 |                       |                 |
| <b>(A)</b> Preferred .....                                                                         | <b>1c(3)(A)</b> |                       |                 |
| <b>(B)</b> All other .....                                                                         | <b>1c(3)(B)</b> |                       |                 |
| <b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):                                      |                 |                       |                 |
| <b>(A)</b> Preferred .....                                                                         | <b>1c(4)(A)</b> |                       |                 |
| <b>(B)</b> Common .....                                                                            | <b>1c(4)(B)</b> |                       |                 |
| <b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....                                               | <b>1c(5)</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....                                   | <b>1c(6)</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....                                                | <b>1c(7)</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....                                                                 | <b>1c(8)</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....                                     | <b>1c(9)</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts .....                                    | <b>1c(10)</b>   | 969847                | 766776          |
| <b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....                            | <b>1c(11)</b>   |                       |                 |
| <b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....                                  | <b>1c(12)</b>   |                       |                 |
| <b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....        | <b>1c(13)</b>   | 25493637              | 28293386        |
| <b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts) ..... | <b>1c(14)</b>   | 9606662               | 9420989         |
| <b>(15)</b> Other .....                                                                            | <b>1c(15)</b>   |                       |                 |

|                                                                           |              |                       |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>1d</b> Employer-related investments:                                   |              | (a) Beginning of Year | (b) End of Year |
| (1) Employer securities .....                                             | <b>1d(1)</b> |                       |                 |
| (2) Employer real property .....                                          | <b>1d(2)</b> |                       |                 |
| <b>e</b> Buildings and other property used in plan operation .....        | <b>1e</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>f</b> Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e) .....      | <b>1f</b>    | 36070146              | 38481151        |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                                                        |              |                       |                 |
| <b>g</b> Benefit claims payable .....                                     | <b>1g</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>h</b> Operating payables .....                                         | <b>1h</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>i</b> Acquisition indebtedness .....                                   | <b>1i</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>j</b> Other liabilities .....                                          | <b>1j</b>    |                       |                 |
| <b>k</b> Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j) ..... | <b>1k</b>    | 0                     | 0               |
| <b>Net Assets</b>                                                         |              |                       |                 |
| <b>l</b> Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f) .....                 | <b>1l</b>    | 36070146              | 38481151        |

**Part II Income and Expense Statement**

**2** Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

|                                                                                                            |                 |            |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|
| <b>Income</b>                                                                                              |                 | (a) Amount | (b) Total |
| <b>a Contributions:</b>                                                                                    |                 |            |           |
| (1) Received or receivable in cash from: <b>(A)</b> Employers .....                                        | <b>2a(1)(A)</b> | 437873     |           |
| <b>(B)</b> Participants .....                                                                              | <b>2a(1)(B)</b> | 575116     |           |
| <b>(C)</b> Others (including rollovers) .....                                                              | <b>2a(1)(C)</b> |            |           |
| (2) Noncash contributions .....                                                                            | <b>2a(2)</b>    |            |           |
| (3) Total contributions. Add lines <b>2a(1)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , <b>(C)</b> , and line <b>2a(2)</b> ..... | <b>2a(3)</b>    |            | 1012989   |
| <b>b Earnings on investments:</b>                                                                          |                 |            |           |
| (1) Interest:                                                                                              |                 |            |           |
| <b>(A)</b> Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit) .....       | <b>2b(1)(A)</b> |            |           |
| <b>(B)</b> U.S. Government securities .....                                                                | <b>2b(1)(B)</b> |            |           |
| <b>(C)</b> Corporate debt instruments .....                                                                | <b>2b(1)(C)</b> |            |           |
| <b>(D)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....                                                        | <b>2b(1)(D)</b> |            |           |
| <b>(E)</b> Participant loans .....                                                                         | <b>2b(1)(E)</b> |            |           |
| <b>(F)</b> Other .....                                                                                     | <b>2b(1)(F)</b> | 447031     |           |
| <b>(G)</b> Total interest. Add lines <b>2b(1)(A)</b> through <b>(F)</b> .....                              | <b>2b(1)(G)</b> |            | 447031    |
| (2) Dividends: <b>(A)</b> Preferred stock .....                                                            | <b>2b(2)(A)</b> |            |           |
| <b>(B)</b> Common stock .....                                                                              | <b>2b(2)(B)</b> |            |           |
| <b>(C)</b> Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds) .....                                  | <b>2b(2)(C)</b> | 516355     |           |
| <b>(D)</b> Total dividends. Add lines <b>2b(2)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , and <b>(C)</b> .....                  | <b>2b(2)(D)</b> |            | 516355    |
| (3) Rents .....                                                                                            | <b>2b(3)</b>    |            |           |
| (4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: <b>(A)</b> Aggregate proceeds .....                                 | <b>2b(4)(A)</b> |            |           |
| <b>(B)</b> Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions) .....                                              | <b>2b(4)(B)</b> |            |           |
| <b>(C)</b> Subtract line <b>2b(4)(B)</b> from line <b>2b(4)(A)</b> and enter result .....                  | <b>2b(4)(C)</b> |            |           |
| (5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: <b>(A)</b> Real estate .....                         | <b>2b(5)(A)</b> |            |           |
| <b>(B)</b> Other .....                                                                                     | <b>2b(5)(B)</b> |            |           |
| <b>(C)</b> Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines <b>2b(5)(A)</b> and <b>(B)</b> .....         | <b>2b(5)(C)</b> |            |           |

|                                                                                                 |        | (a) Amount | (b) Total |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|------------|-----------|
| (6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....                               | 2b(6)  |            |           |
| (7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....                               | 2b(7)  |            | -123442   |
| (8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....                       | 2b(8)  |            |           |
| (9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....                             | 2b(9)  |            |           |
| (10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) ..... | 2b(10) |            | 3888939   |
| <b>c</b> Other income .....                                                                     | 2c     |            | 10342     |
| <b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....        | 2d     |            | 5752214   |

**Expenses**

|                                                                                             |        |         |         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| <b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:                                  |        |         |         |
| (1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers .....             | 2e(1)  | 3069212 |         |
| (2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....                                | 2e(2)  | 140646  |         |
| (3) Other .....                                                                             | 2e(3)  |         |         |
| (4) Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....                 | 2e(4)  |         | 3209858 |
| <b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....                                  | 2f     |         |         |
| <b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions) .....         | 2g     |         |         |
| <b>h</b> Interest expense .....                                                             | 2h     |         |         |
| <b>i</b> Administrative expenses:                                                           |        |         |         |
| (1) Salaries and allowances .....                                                           | 2i(1)  |         |         |
| (2) Contract administrator fees.....                                                        | 2i(2)  | 48316   |         |
| (3) Recordkeeping fees.....                                                                 | 2i(3)  | 83602   |         |
| (4) IQPA audit fees.....                                                                    | 2i(4)  |         |         |
| (5) Investment advisory and investment management fees .....                                | 2i(5)  |         |         |
| (6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees .....                                      | 2i(6)  |         |         |
| (7) Actuarial fees .....                                                                    | 2i(7)  |         |         |
| (8) Legal fees .....                                                                        | 2i(8)  |         |         |
| (9) Valuation/appraisal fees .....                                                          | 2i(9)  |         |         |
| (10) Other trustee fees and expenses .....                                                  | 2i(10) |         |         |
| (11) Other expenses .....                                                                   | 2i(11) |         |         |
| (12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(11)</b> .....        | 2i(12) |         | 131918  |
| <b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total ..... | 2j     |         | 3341776 |

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

|                                                                               |       |  |         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--|---------|
| <b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> ..... | 2k    |  | 2410438 |
| <b>l</b> Transfers of assets:                                                 |       |  |         |
| (1) To this plan .....                                                        | 2l(1) |  | 567     |
| (2) From this plan .....                                                      | 2l(2) |  |         |

**Part III Accountant's Opinion**

**3** Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

**a** The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) ☒ Unmodified (2) ☐ Qualified (3) ☐ Disclaimer (4) ☐ Adverse

**b** Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) ☒ DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) ☐ DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) ☐ neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

**c** Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: **BROWN, EDWARDS & COMPANY**

(2) EIN: **54-0504608**

**d** The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. (2) ☐ It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

**Part IV Compliance Questions**

**4** CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Yes                                 | No                                  | Amount  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>a</b> Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.) .....                 |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>b</b> Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.) ..... |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>c</b> Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.) .....                                                                                                                             |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>d</b> Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.) .....                                                                                                                  |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond? .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                     | 1000000 |
| <b>f</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty? .....                                                                                                                                                                          |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>g</b> Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser? .....                                                                                                                                       |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>h</b> Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser? .....                                                                                                                             |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.) .....                                                                                                                                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                     |         |
| <b>j</b> Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.) .....                                                                                     |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC? .....                                                                                                                                              |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan? .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.) .....                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>n</b> If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3. ....                                                                                                                         |                                     |                                     |         |

**5a** Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? ..... ☐ Yes ☒ No  
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year \_\_\_\_\_.

**5b** If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

| <b>5b(1)</b> Name of plan(s) | <b>5b(2)</b> EIN(s) | <b>5b(3)</b> PN(s) |
|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
|                              |                     |                    |
|                              |                     |                    |
|                              |                     |                    |
|                              |                     |                    |

**5c** Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) ..... ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year \_\_\_\_\_.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div>SCHEDULE R<br/>(Form 5500)<br/><br/>Department of the Treasury<br/>Internal Revenue Service<br/><br/>Department of Labor<br/>Employee Benefits Security Administration<br/><br/>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</div>                                                                                                                            | <div>Retirement Plan Information</div> <div>This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).</div> <div>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</div> | <div>OMB No. 1210-0110</div> <div>2023</div> <div>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</div> |
| For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| A Name of plan<br>MARS HILL UNIVERSITY DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001                                                            |
| C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500<br>MARS HILL UNIVERSITY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | D Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br>56-0554207                                            |
| Part I                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Distributions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                 |
| All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| 1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1 0                                                                                             |
| 2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):<br><br>EIN(s): 13-1624203                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| 3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 3                                                                                               |
| Part II                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                 |
| 4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A<br>If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| 5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____<br>If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| 6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 6a                                                                                              |
| b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 6b                                                                                              |
| c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount) .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 6c                                                                                              |
| If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| 7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| 8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| Part III                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Amendments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                 |
| 9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box. .... <input type="checkbox"/> Increase <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> No         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| Part IV                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                 |
| 10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan? ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| 11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.) ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| 12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |
| Schedule R (Form 5500) 2023 v. 230707                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                 |

**Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**13** Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer

**b** EIN

**c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

- 14** Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:

**a** The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment) .....

**14a**

**b** The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment) .....

**14b**

**c** The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment) .....

**14c**

- 15** Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

**a** The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year .....

**15a**

**b** The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year .....

**15b**

- 16** Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

**a** Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year .....

**16a**

**b** If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers .....

**16b**

- 17** If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐

## **Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

- 18** If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐

- 19** If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):

**a** Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:

Public Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Private Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: \_\_\_\_\_%

High-Yield Debt: \_\_\_\_\_% Real Assets: \_\_\_\_\_% Cash or Cash Equivalents: \_\_\_\_\_% Other: \_\_\_\_\_%

**b** Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:

☐ 0-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10-15 years ☐ 15 years or more

- 20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements.** If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

**a** Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? ☐ Yes ☐ No

**b** If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:

☐ Yes.

☐ No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. Other. Provide explanation. \_\_\_\_\_

## **Part VII IRS Compliance Questions**

- 21a** Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules? ☐ Yes ☒ No

- 21b** If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).

☐ Design-based safe harbor method

☐ "Prior year" ADP test

☐ "Current year" ADP test

☒ N/A

- 22** If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number \_\_\_\_\_.



# **Mars Hill University**

# **Defined Contribution**

# **Retirement Plan**

## **Financial Report**

December 31, 2023

Mars Hill University  
Defined Contribution Retirement Plan

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## **Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Plan Administrator and Those Charged with Governance of the  
Mars Hill University Defined Contribution Retirement Plan  
Mars Hill, North Carolina

### **Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit**

We have performed audits of the accompanying financial statements of Mars Hill University Defined Contribution Retirement Plan (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of Mars Hill University Defined Contribution Retirement Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certifications from qualified institutions as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 and for the year ended December 31, 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 8 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section:

- the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements referred to above, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- the information in the financial statements referred to above related to assets held by and certified to by qualified institutions agree to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by institutions that management determined meet the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).



## **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Mars Hill University Defined Contribution Retirement Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

## **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

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

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments, administering the plan, and determining that the plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.



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

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

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certifications, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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

## **Other Matter – Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA**

The supplemental Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2023 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed

to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

- the form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, is presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by qualified institutions agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by institutions that management determined meet the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

*Brown, Edwards & Company, L.L.P.*

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Roanoke, Virginia  
May 30, 2025



# Financial Statements



**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
**Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits**  
December 31, 2023 and 2022

|                                               | <u>2023</u>                 | <u>2022</u>                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                 |                             |                             |
| Investments at fair value (Notes 3, 4, and 8) | \$ 37,380,508               | \$ 34,969,136               |
| Investments at contract value (Notes 4 and 8) | <u>1,100,643</u>            | <u>1,101,010</u>            |
| <b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</b>      | <u><b>\$ 38,481,151</b></u> | <u><b>\$ 36,070,146</b></u> |

**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
**Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits**  
Year Ended December 31, 2023

**ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:**

|                                               |                  |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Investment income (Notes 3, 4, and 8)         |                  |
| Net appreciation in fair value of investments | \$ 3,765,499     |
| Interest and dividends                        | <u>963,386</u>   |
|                                               | 4,728,885        |
| Contributions                                 |                  |
| Employer                                      | 437,873          |
| Participant                                   | 575,116          |
| Plan to plan transfers in                     | <u>567</u>       |
| Total additions                               | <u>5,742,441</u> |

**DEDUCTIONS FROM NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:**

|                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Benefits paid                    | 3,209,858        |
| Administrative expenses (Note 5) | <u>121,578</u>   |
| Total deductions                 | <u>3,331,436</u> |
| Net increase                     | 2,411,005        |

**NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS**

|                   |                             |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Beginning of year | <u>36,070,146</u>           |
| End of year       | <u><u>\$ 38,481,151</u></u> |

**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2023**

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**Note 1 – Plan Description**

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The following description of the Mars Hill University Defined Contribution Retirement Plan (the “Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan’s provisions.

*General*

The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering substantially all employees of Mars Hill University (the “University”), excluding student employees and non-resident aliens. It is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

*Contributions*

Each year, participants may contribute a portion of their compensation as a pre-tax and/or Roth deferral as defined by the Plan, up to the maximum allowed by the *Internal Revenue Code (IRC)*. There are no age or service requirements for participation in elective deferrals. After completing 12 months of service and attainment of age 21, full-time employees must make a mandatory contribution equal to 5.00% of eligible compensation as a pre-tax deferral, as defined in the Plan. The University’s matching contribution is 100% of a participant’s mandatory 5% pre-tax contribution. Contributions are subject to certain limitations. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified plans. Participants direct the investment of their contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan.

*Participant Accounts*

Each participant’s account is credited with the participant’s contribution, the University’s contribution, and an allocation of earnings and administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant’s vested account.

*Vesting*

Participants are immediately vested in their contributions and the University’s contributions, plus earnings thereon.

*Payments of Benefits*

Upon termination of service due to death, disability, retirement, or other reasons, a participant may elect to receive a lump-sum distribution, partial payments, or annuity payments. Vested benefits of \$1,000 or less will be paid in a lump-sum amount.

*Notes from Participants*

Generally, participants may borrow from their accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of the present value of their account balance. Note terms range from one to five years unless the note is for purchase of a primary residence, in which case the term may exceed five years. Notes are secured by the balance in the participant’s account and bear interest at a specified rate. There were no participant loans outstanding at December 31, 2023 and 2022. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
December 31, 2023

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**Note 2 – Significant Accounting Policies**

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*Basis of Accounting*

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared using the accrual method of accounting.

Investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan are required to be reported at fair value, except for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts. Contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan.

*Estimates*

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

*Valuation of Investments and Income Recognition*

The Plan's investments are reported at fair value except for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts, which are reported at contract value. 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.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation or depreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

*Benefit Payments*

Benefit payments are recorded when paid.

*Administrative Expenses*

Administrative expenses incurred by the Plan may be paid by either the Plan or the University. A portion of these fees and expenses were paid by the Plan for the year ended December 31, 2023, and some are netted with investment income. Administrative fees paid by the Plan during 2023 were \$121,578.

# Mars Hill University

## Defined Contribution Retirement Plan

### Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

#### Note 3 – Fair Value Measurements

The Plan's mutual funds, pooled separate account, and non-benefit-responsive traditional annuity investments are reported at fair value in the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits. The methods used to measure fair value may produce an amount that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The fair value measurement accounting literature establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. This hierarchy consists of three broad levels: Level 1 inputs consist of unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and have the highest priority; Level 2 inputs consist of observable inputs other than quoted prices for identical assets; and Level 3 inputs consist of unobservable inputs and have the lowest priority. The Plan uses appropriate valuation techniques based on the available inputs to measure the fair value of its investments. When available, the Plan measures fair value using Level 1 inputs because they generally provide the most reliable evidence of fair value. Level 3 inputs were used only when Level 1 and Level 2 inputs were not available.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2023 and 2022. Classification within the fair value hierarchy table is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

| Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using:  |                             |                                                                            |                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
|                                                   |                             | Quoted Prices in<br>Active Markets<br>for Identical<br>Assets<br>(Level 1) | Significant<br>Unobservable<br>Inputs<br>(Level 3) |
|                                                   | Fair Value                  |                                                                            |                                                    |
| <b><u>December 31, 2023</u></b>                   |                             |                                                                            |                                                    |
| Pooled separate account                           | \$ 766,776                  | \$ 766,776                                                                 | \$ -                                               |
| Mutual funds                                      | 28,293,386                  | 28,293,386                                                                 | -                                                  |
| TIAA Traditional Annuity – non-benefit-responsive | 8,320,346                   | -                                                                          | 8,320,346                                          |
| Total                                             | <u><u>\$ 37,380,508</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 29,060,162</u></u>                                                | <u><u>\$ 8,320,346</u></u>                         |
| <b><u>December 31, 2022</u></b>                   |                             |                                                                            |                                                    |
| Pooled separate account                           | \$ 969,847                  | \$ 969,847                                                                 | \$ -                                               |
| Mutual funds                                      | 25,493,637                  | 25,493,637                                                                 | -                                                  |
| TIAA Traditional Annuity – non-benefit-responsive | 8,505,652                   | -                                                                          | 8,505,652                                          |
| Total                                             | <u><u>\$ 34,969,136</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 26,463,484</u></u>                                                | <u><u>\$ 8,505,652</u></u>                         |

#### Level 1 Fair Value Measurements

The fair values of mutual funds and the pooled separate account are based on quoted net asset values of the shares held by the Plan at year end.

# Mars Hill University

## Defined Contribution Retirement Plan

### Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

#### *Level 3 Fair Value Measurements*

The non-benefit-responsive TIAA Traditional Annuity is valued at fair value which equals the accumulated cash contributions and interest credited to the Plan's contracts less any withdrawals. The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of the Plan's Level 3 investments include interest rates and the terms of individual underlying annuity contracts. Significant change to the terms of these contracts or interest rates could have resulted in a significantly higher or lower fair value measurement for these investments. The following table provides further detail of Level 3 investments.

| <b>Fair Value Measurements using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)</b> |                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                | <b>TIAA Traditional<br/>Annuity – Non-<br/>Benefit-<br/>Responsive</b> |
| <b><u>December 31, 2023</u></b>                                                |                                                                        |
| Beginning balance                                                              | \$ 8,505,652                                                           |
| Interest credited                                                              | 403,030                                                                |
| Purchases                                                                      | 12,939                                                                 |
| Sales                                                                          | (496,007)                                                              |
| Transfers from other funds                                                     | 255,773                                                                |
| Transfers to other funds                                                       | (361,041)                                                              |
| Ending balance                                                                 | <b><u>\$ 8,320,346</u></b>                                             |
| <b><u>December 31, 2022</u></b>                                                |                                                                        |
| Beginning balance                                                              | \$ 8,774,033                                                           |
| Interest credited                                                              | 362,001                                                                |
| Purchases                                                                      | 13,258                                                                 |
| Sales                                                                          | (594,891)                                                              |
| Transfers from other funds                                                     | 1,145,079                                                              |
| Transfers to other funds                                                       | (1,193,828)                                                            |
| Ending balance                                                                 | <b><u>\$ 8,505,652</u></b>                                             |

# Mars Hill University

## Defined Contribution Retirement Plan

### Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

#### Quantitative Information About Significant Unobservable Inputs Used in Level 3 Fair Value Measurements

| Instrument                                               | Fair Value   | Principal<br>Valuation<br>Technique                                     | Unobservable<br>Inputs                         | Range of<br>Significant<br>Input Values at<br>December 31,<br>2023 | Range of<br>Significant<br>Input Values at<br>December 31,<br>2022 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| TIAA Traditional<br>Annuity – Non-<br>Benefit-Responsive | \$ 8,320,346 | Theoretical<br>transfer (exit<br>value)<br><br>Discounted cash<br>flows | Risk –<br>adjusted<br>discount rate<br>applied | 4.00% to 7.00%                                                     | 3.70% to 6.50%                                                     |

#### Note 4 – Investment Contract with Insurance Company

##### *Non-Benefit-Responsive*

Participants may choose to invest in a TIAA Traditional Annuity account that is not a fully benefit-responsive traditional investment contract. This contract pays a guaranteed rate of interest plus additional amounts that are not guaranteed but may be established on a year-by-year basis. These additional amounts, when declared, remain in effect through the end of the “declaration year,” which begins each March 1. Contributions to a participant’s account provide a guaranteed amount of lifetime annuity income. The guaranteed minimum interest rate is generally between 1.00% and 3.00%.

##### *Fully Benefit-Responsive*

Participants may also invest in a TIAA Traditional Annuity account that is a fully benefit-responsive traditional investment contract. This contract meets the fully benefit-responsive investment contract criteria and therefore is reported at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measure for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because this is the amount received by participants if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. Contract value represents contributions made under each contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals, and administrative expenses. This contract maintains the participants’ contributions plus a specified rate of interest and is guaranteed by TIAA’s claims paying ability. Contributions to a participant’s account provide a guaranteed amount of lifetime annuity income. The guaranteed minimum interest is generally between 1.00% and 3.00%. The crediting rate is reviewed on an annual basis for resetting. Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investment at contract value.

The following represents the total contract value of this investment contract held by the Plan.

|                                  | 2023         | 2022         |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Traditional investment contracts | \$ 1,100,643 | \$ 1,101,010 |

The Plan’s ability to receive amounts due in accordance with fully benefit-responsive investment contracts is dependent on the third-party issuer’s ability to meet its financial obligations. The issuer’s ability to meet its contractual obligations may be affected by future economic and regulatory developments.

**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2023**

Certain events might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the contract issuer. These events may be different under each contract. Examples of such events include the following:

- The Plan's failure to qualify under Section 401(a) of the *Internal Revenue Code* or the failure of the trust to be tax-exempt under Section 501(a) of the *Internal Revenue Code*
- Premature termination of the contracts
- Plan termination or merger
- Changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options
- Other Plan Sponsor events that significantly affect the Plan's normal operations

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 issuer 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:

- An uncured violation of the Plan's investment guidelines
- A breach of material obligation under the contract
- A material misrepresentation
- A material amendment to the agreements without the consent of the issuer

When a participant's account in the non-benefit-responsive and fully benefit-responsive TIAA Traditional Annuity is annuitized based on available options, the present value of the stream of payments is equal to the account balance. This annuitization is accounted for as an annuity settlement option, a type of distribution from the Plan used to purchase individual annuity contracts. The subsequent stream of annuity payments from the individual contract occurs outside of the Plan and does not represent an obligation of the Plan.

TIAA issues various types of contracts as funding vehicles for retirement plans. Certain contract types contain liquidity restrictions on the redemption of TIAA Traditional Annuity accumulations, which could impact the value realized upon exiting the contract.

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## **Note 5 – Related Party and Party-in-Interest Transactions**

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Certain administrative functions are performed by officers or employees of the University. These employees are also Plan participants. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan.

Plan participants may choose to invest in funds held by TIAA and CREF. Investments in funds issued and managed by TIAA and CREF are considered related-party transactions. TRG Advisors, Inc. ("TRG") and Millennium Advisory Services, Inc. ("Millennium") are fiduciaries of the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. For the year ended December 31, 2023 fees paid by the Plan for services from Millennium, TIAA, and TRG amounted to \$83,602, \$31,061, and \$17,255, respectively.

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## **Note 6 – Plan Termination**

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Although they have not expressed any intent to do so, the University has the right under the Plan to discontinue their contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA.

**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2023**

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**Note 7 – Tax Status**

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The Plan is an adoption of a 403(b) volume submitter plan sponsored by TIAA, restated January 1, 2019. The University has obtained the most recent favorable opinion letter from the IRS dated August 7, 2017 issued on the volume submitter plan, stating the plan and related trust are designed in accordance with applicable sections of the *Internal Revenue Code (IRC)*. The Plan Sponsor and Administrator believe that the Plan is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the *IRC*.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. The Plan Administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2023, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements.

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**Note 8 – TIAA and CREF’s Certification**

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Certain information was certified as complete and accurate by TIAA and CREF. This information is as follows:

- Investment assets
- Investment transactions
- Investment income
- Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

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**Note 9 – Subsequent Events**

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Subsequent events have been evaluated through May 30, 2025, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

On February 1, 2024, the Plan was restated to remove the mandatory 5% employee contribution and the nonelective 5% employer contribution. The University’s matching contribution is now 100% of voluntary employee deferrals, up to 5% of compensation.



# **Supplemental Information**

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**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
(EIN: 56-0554207) (Plan: 001)

**Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)**  
December 31, 2023

| (a) | (b)<br>Identity of Issuer,<br>Borrower, Lessor,<br>or Similar Party | (c)<br>Description of Investment<br>Including Maturity Date,<br>Rate of Interest,<br>Par, or Maturity Value | (d)<br>Cost | (e)<br>Current<br>Value |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| *   | TIAA                                                                | Real Estate Account                                                                                         | \$ **       | \$ 766,776              |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Stock Fund R1                                                                                               | **          | 3,420,139               |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Money Market Fund R1                                                                                        | **          | 148,622                 |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Social Choice Fund R1                                                                                       | **          | 1,271,827               |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Core Bond Fund R1                                                                                           | **          | 286,754                 |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Global Equities Fund R1                                                                                     | **          | 1,068,270               |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Growth Fund R1                                                                                              | **          | 847,081                 |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Equity Index Fund R1                                                                                        | **          | 1,154,645               |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Inflation-Linked Bond Fund R1                                                                               | **          | 150,171                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2010 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 8,353                   |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2015 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 1,014                   |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2020 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 76,945                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2025 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 108,773                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2030 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 472,593                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2035 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 142,257                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2040 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 187,132                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2045 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 89,079                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2050 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 45,434                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2055 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 2,666                   |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Retirement Income Fund                                                                            | **          | 31,787                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2015 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 280,549                 |

**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
(EIN: 56-0554207) (Plan: 001)

**Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)**  
**December 31, 2023**

| (a) | (b)<br>Identity of Issuer,<br>Borrower, Lessor,<br>or Similar Party | (c)<br>Description of Investment<br>Including Maturity Date,<br>Rate of Interest,<br>Par, or Maturity Value | (d)<br>Cost | (e)<br>Current<br>Value |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2020 Fund Institutional                                                                     | \$ **       | \$ 579,301              |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2025 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 1,542,714               |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2030 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 695,092                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2035 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 1,513,386               |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2040 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 991,297                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2045 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 846,761                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2050 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 991,209                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2055 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 494,175                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2060 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 207,924                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2065 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 6,086                   |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index Retirement Income Fund<br>Institutional                                                     | **          | 13,696                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Equity Index Fund Institutional                                                                             | **          | 3,566,950               |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | High Yield Fund Institutional                                                                               | **          | 16,136                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Money Market Fund Institutional                                                                             | **          | 213,757                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Social Choice Equity Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 196,371                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | International Equity Retirement Fund                                                                        | **          | 520,471                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Large-Cap Value Retirement Fund                                                                             | **          | 334,602                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Mid-Cap Growth Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 151,732                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Mid-Cap Value Retirement Fund                                                                               | **          | 198,142                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Small-Cap Equity Retirement Fund                                                                            | **          | 195,501                 |

**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
(EIN: 56-0554207) (Plan: 001)

**Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)**  
December 31, 2023

| (a) | (b)<br>Identity of Issuer,<br>Borrower, Lessor,<br>or Similar Party | (c)<br>Description of Investment<br>Including Maturity Date,<br>Rate of Interest,<br>Par, or Maturity Value | (d)<br>Cost | (e)<br>Current<br>Value     |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| *   | TIAA                                                                | Traditional Benefit-Responsive<br>Annuity                                                                   | \$ **       | \$ 1,100,643                |
| *   | TIAA                                                                | Traditional Non Benefit-Responsive<br>Annuity                                                               | **          | 8,320,346                   |
|     | PIMCO                                                               | Real Return Fund Institutional                                                                              | **          | 772,660                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Equity Income Fund Adm                                                                                      | **          | 258,230                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Short Term Investment Fund Adm                                                                              | **          | 130,445                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Small-Cap Index Fund Adm                                                                                    | **          | 184,592                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Total Bond Market Index Fund Adm                                                                            | **          | 1,441,135                   |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Wellington Fund Adm                                                                                         | **          | 129,075                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Mid-Cap Index Fund Adm                                                                                      | **          | 149,231                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Balanced Index Fund Institutional                                                                           | **          | 6,239                       |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Total International Stock Index Fund Adm                                                                    | **          | 1,216,830                   |
|     | Metropolitan West                                                   | Total Return Bond Fund I                                                                                    | **          | 736,391                     |
|     | T. Rowe Price                                                       | Health Sciences Fund I                                                                                      | **          | 51,864                      |
|     | AME Capital                                                         | World Bond Fund                                                                                             | **          | 78,258                      |
|     | AB                                                                  | Large Cap Growth Fund Z                                                                                     | **          | 68,435                      |
|     | Parnassus                                                           | Core Equity Fund Institutional                                                                              | **          | 607                         |
|     |                                                                     | Total Assets                                                                                                |             | <u><u>\$ 38,481,151</u></u> |

\* Party-in-interest

\*\* Cost omitted for participant directed investment.



# **Supplemental Information**

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**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
(EIN: 56-0554207) (Plan: 001)

**Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)**  
December 31, 2023

| (a) | (b)<br>Identity of Issuer,<br>Borrower, Lessor,<br>or Similar Party | (c)<br>Description of Investment<br>Including Maturity Date,<br>Rate of Interest,<br>Par, or Maturity Value | (d)<br>Cost | (e)<br>Current<br>Value |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| *   | TIAA                                                                | Real Estate Account                                                                                         | \$          | \$ 766,776              |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Stock Fund R1                                                                                               | **          | 3,420,139               |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Money Market Fund R1                                                                                        | **          | 148,622                 |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Social Choice Fund R1                                                                                       | **          | 1,271,827               |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Core Bond Fund R1                                                                                           | **          | 286,754                 |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Global Equities Fund R1                                                                                     | **          | 1,068,270               |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Growth Fund R1                                                                                              | **          | 847,081                 |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Equity Index Fund R1                                                                                        | **          | 1,154,645               |
| *   | CREF                                                                | Inflation-Linked Bond Fund R1                                                                               | **          | 150,171                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2010 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 8,353                   |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2015 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 1,014                   |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2020 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 76,945                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2025 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 108,773                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2030 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 472,593                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2035 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 142,257                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2040 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 187,132                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2045 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 89,079                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2050 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 45,434                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle 2055 Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 2,666                   |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Retirement Income Fund                                                                            | **          | 31,787                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2015 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 280,549                 |

**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
(EIN: 56-0554207) (Plan: 001)

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|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2020 Fund Institutional                                                                     | \$ **       | \$ 579,301              |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2025 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 1,542,714               |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2030 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 695,092                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2035 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 1,513,386               |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2040 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 991,297                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2045 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 846,761                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2050 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 991,209                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2055 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 494,175                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2060 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 207,924                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index 2065 Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 6,086                   |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Lifecycle Index Retirement Income Fund<br>Institutional                                                     | **          | 13,696                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Equity Index Fund Institutional                                                                             | **          | 3,566,950               |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | High Yield Fund Institutional                                                                               | **          | 16,136                  |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Money Market Fund Institutional                                                                             | **          | 213,757                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Social Choice Equity Fund Institutional                                                                     | **          | 196,371                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | International Equity Retirement Fund                                                                        | **          | 520,471                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Large-Cap Value Retirement Fund                                                                             | **          | 334,602                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Mid-Cap Growth Retirement Fund                                                                              | **          | 151,732                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Mid-Cap Value Retirement Fund                                                                               | **          | 198,142                 |
| *   | TIAA-CREF                                                           | Small-Cap Equity Retirement Fund                                                                            | **          | 195,501                 |

**Mars Hill University**  
**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan**  
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|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| *   | TIAA                                                                | Traditional Benefit-Responsive<br>Annuity                                                                   | \$ **       | \$ 1,100,643                |
| *   | TIAA                                                                | Traditional Non Benefit-Responsive<br>Annuity                                                               | **          | 8,320,346                   |
|     | PIMCO                                                               | Real Return Fund Institutional                                                                              | **          | 772,660                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Equity Income Fund Adm                                                                                      | **          | 258,230                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Short Term Investment Fund Adm                                                                              | **          | 130,445                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Small-Cap Index Fund Adm                                                                                    | **          | 184,592                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Total Bond Market Index Fund Adm                                                                            | **          | 1,441,135                   |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Wellington Fund Adm                                                                                         | **          | 129,075                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Mid-Cap Index Fund Adm                                                                                      | **          | 149,231                     |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Balanced Index Fund Institutional                                                                           | **          | 6,239                       |
|     | Vanguard                                                            | Total International Stock Index Fund Adm                                                                    | **          | 1,216,830                   |
|     | Metropolitan West                                                   | Total Return Bond Fund I                                                                                    | **          | 736,391                     |
|     | T. Rowe Price                                                       | Health Sciences Fund I                                                                                      | **          | 51,864                      |
|     | AME Capital                                                         | World Bond Fund                                                                                             | **          | 78,258                      |
|     | AB                                                                  | Large Cap Growth Fund Z                                                                                     | **          | 68,435                      |
|     | Parnassus                                                           | Core Equity Fund Institutional                                                                              | **          | 607                         |
|     |                                                                     | Total Assets                                                                                                |             | <u><u>\$ 38,481,151</u></u> |

\* Party-in-interest

\*\* Cost omitted for participant directed investment.