

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Form 5500</b></p> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of the Treasury<br/>Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of Labor<br/>Employee Benefits Security<br/>Administration</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p> | <p><b>Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">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).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</b></p> | <p style="font-size: x-small;">OMB Nos. 1210-0110<br/>1210-0089</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: large; text-align: center;"><b>2024</b></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b></p> |
|---|---|---|

**Part I Annual Report Identification Information**  
 For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 11/30/2024

**A** This return/report is for:  a multiemployer plan  a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)

a single-employer plan  a DFE (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**B** This return/report is:  the first return/report  the final return/report

an amended return/report  a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)

**C** If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. . . . .

**D** Check box if filing under:  Form 5558  automatic extension  the DFVC program

special extension (enter description)

**E** If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. . . . .

**Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1a</b> Name of plan<br/><u>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY DC RETIREMENT PLAN</u></p>  | <p><b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>001</u></p>   |
| <p><b>2a</b> 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/><u>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY</u></p> <p><u>700 COLLEGE AVE</u><br/><u>CARLINVILLE, IL 62626</u></p> | <p><b>1c</b> Effective date of plan<br/><u>08/01/1949</u></p> <p><b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br/><u>37-0661491</u></p> <p><b>2c</b> Plan Sponsor's telephone number<br/><u>217-854-3231</u></p> <p><b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions)<br/><u>611000</u></p> |

**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.

|                  |   |            |  |
|------------------|---|------------|--|
| <b>SIGN HERE</b> | Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature. | 09/11/2025 | DEANA ROGERS   |
|                  | Signature of plan administrator                   | Date       | Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator       |
| <b>SIGN HERE</b> |   |            |  |
|                  | Signature of employer/plan sponsor                | Date       | Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor |
| <b>SIGN HERE</b> |   |            |  |
|                  | 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              |     |
|   | <b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number |     |
| <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                              |     |
|   | <b>4d</b> PN                               |     |
| <b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year   | <b>5</b>                                   | 271 |
| <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..... | <b>6a(1)</b>                               | 108 |
|   | <b>6a(2)</b>                               | 0   |
|   | <b>6b</b>                                  | 0   |
|   | <b>6c</b>                                  | 0   |
|   | <b>6d</b>                                  | 0   |
|   | <b>6e</b>                                  | 0   |
|   | <b>6f</b>                                  | 0   |
|   | <b>6g(1)</b>                               | 270 |
|   | <b>6g(2)</b>                               | 0   |
| <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:  
2G 2L 2M

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

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>a Pension Schedules</b>   | <b>b General Schedules</b>  |
| (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>R</b> (Retirement Plan Information)   | (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>H</b> (Financial Information)                            |
| (2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MB</b> (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary | (2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I</b> (Financial Information – Small Plan)                          |
| (3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SB</b> (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary                               | (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>A</b> (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>1</u> |
| (4) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DCG</b> (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____  | (4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> (Service Provider Information)                     |
| (5) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MEP</b> (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)  | (5) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> (DFE/Participating Plan Information)               |
|  | (6) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>G</b> (Financial Transaction Schedules)                             |

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

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**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.

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**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 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p><b>SCHEDULE A</b><br/><b>(Form 5500)</b></p> <p>Department of the Treasury<br/>Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p>Department of Labor<br/>Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p> | <p><b>Insurance Information</b></p> <p>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</p> <p>▶ <b>File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b></p> <p>▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).</p> | <p>OMB No. 1210-0110</p> <hr/> <p><b>2024</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b></p> |
|---|--|--|

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **11/30/2024**

|  |  |            |
|--|--|------------|
| <b>A</b> Name of plan<br><b>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY DC RETIREMENT PLAN</b>                      | <b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶                            | <b>001</b> |
| <b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500<br><b>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY</b> | <b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br><b>37-0661491</b> |            |

**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         | 314851                                | 0   | 01/01/2024              | 11/30/2024 |

**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.

|   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <b>(a)</b> Total amount of commissions paid | <b>(b)</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 |                       |
|   |                                 |             |                       |

(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 |                       |
|   |                                 |             |                       |

(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 |                       |
|   |                                 |             |                       |

(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 |                       |
|   |                                 |             |                       |

| <b>Part II</b>             | <b>Investment and Annuity Contract Information</b>   |                      |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------|
|                            | 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 .....  | 0                    |
| <b>5</b>                   | Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....   | 0                    |
| <b>6</b>                   | <b>Contracts With Allocated Funds:</b>   |                      |
| <b>a</b>                   | State the basis of premium rates ▶   |                      |
| <b>b</b>                   | Premiums paid to carrier .....   | <b>6b</b>            |
| <b>c</b>                   | Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year .....   | <b>6c</b>            |
| <b>d</b>                   | 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. ....<br>Specify nature of costs ▶  | <b>6d</b>            |
| <b>e</b>                   | Type of contract: (1) <input type="checkbox"/> individual policies                      (2) <input type="checkbox"/> group deferred annuity<br>(3) <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) ▶  |                      |
| <b>f</b>                   | If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>  |                      |
| <b>7</b>                   | <b>Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)</b>   |                      |
| <b>a</b>                   | Type of contract: (1) <input type="checkbox"/> deposit administration                      (2) <input type="checkbox"/> immediate participation guarantee<br>(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> guaranteed investment                      (4) <input type="checkbox"/> other ▶ |                      |
| <b>b</b>                   | Balance at the end of the previous year .....  | <b>7b</b> 3880585    |
| <b>c</b>                   | Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....   | <b>7c(1)</b> 13558   |
|                            | (2) Dividends and credits.....   | <b>7c(2)</b> 0       |
|                            | (3) Interest credited during the year.....   | <b>7c(3)</b> 156864  |
|                            | (4) Transferred from separate account .....  | <b>7c(4)</b> 407365  |
|                            | (5) Other (specify below).....<br>▶  | <b>7c(5)</b>         |
|                            | (6) Total additions .....  | <b>7c(6)</b> 577787  |
| <b>d</b>                   | Total of balance and additions (add lines <b>7b</b> and <b>7c(6)</b> ) .....   | <b>7d</b> 4458372    |
| <b>e</b>                   | <b>Deductions:</b>   |                      |
|                            | (1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year .....  | <b>7e(1)</b> 332161  |
|                            | (2) Administration charge made by carrier.....   | <b>7e(2)</b> 400538  |
|                            | (3) Transferred to separate account .....  | <b>7e(3)</b>         |
|                            | (4) Other (specify below).....<br>▶ FEES, TRANSFER TO IICU MEP   | <b>7e(4)</b> 3725673 |
| (5) Total deductions ..... | <b>7e(5)</b> 4458372   |                      |
| <b>f</b>                   | Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line <b>7e(5)</b> from line <b>7d</b> ).....  | <b>7f</b> 0          |

**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. ▶

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>SCHEDULE C</b><br><b>(Form 5500)</b><br><br><small>Department of the Treasury<br/>Internal Revenue Service</small><br><br><small>Department of Labor<br/>Employee Benefits Security Administration</small><br><br><small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small> | <b>Service Provider Information</b><br><br>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).<br><br><b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b> | <small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small><br><br><b>2024</b><br><br><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b> |
|--|--|---|

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **11/30/2024**

|  |  |            |
|--|--|------------|
| <b>A</b> Name of plan<br><b>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY DC RETIREMENT PLAN</b>                      | <b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶                            | <b>001</b> |
| <b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500<br><b>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY</b> | <b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br><b>37-0661491</b> |            |

**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

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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)

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? |
|------------------------|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| 13 23 50<br>15 38 64   | NONE  | 11710  | 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)

| (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? |
|------------------------|---|--|--|--|---|--|
|                        |   |  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input 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)

| (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? |
|------------------------|---|--|--|--|---|--|
|                        |   |  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input 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.

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

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

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>SCHEDULE D</b><br><b>(Form 5500)</b><br><br><small>Department of the Treasury<br/>Internal Revenue Service</small><br><br><small>Department of Labor<br/>Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> | <b>DFE/Participating Plan Information</b><br><br>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).<br><br><b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b> | <small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small><br><br><b>2024</b><br><br><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b> |
|---|--|---|

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 11/30/2024

|   |  |            |
|---|--|------------|
| <b>A</b> Name of plan<br><u>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY DC RETIREMENT PLAN</u>                             | <b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN)                              | <u>001</u> |
| <b>C</b> Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500<br><u>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY</u> | <b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br><u>37-0661491</u> |            |

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>Part I</b> | <b>Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs)</b><br>(Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs) |
|---------------|--|

|   |                               |  |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:    | <u>TIAA REAL ESTATE</u>       |  |
| <b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): | <u>TIAA-CREF</u>              |  |
| <b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>13-1624203-004</u>             | <b>d</b> Entity code <u>P</u> | <b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>0</u> |
| <b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:    |                               |  |
| <b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): |                               |  |
| <b>c</b> EIN-PN                                   | <b>d</b> Entity code          | <b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)          |
| <b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:    |                               |  |
| <b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): |                               |  |
| <b>c</b> EIN-PN                                   | <b>d</b> Entity code          | <b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)          |
| <b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:    |                               |  |
| <b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): |                               |  |
| <b>c</b> EIN-PN                                   | <b>d</b> Entity code          | <b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)          |
| <b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:    |                               |  |
| <b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): |                               |  |
| <b>c</b> EIN-PN                                   | <b>d</b> Entity code          | <b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)          |
| <b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:    |                               |  |
| <b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): |                               |  |
| <b>c</b> EIN-PN                                   | <b>d</b> Entity code          | <b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)          |
| <b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:    |                               |  |
| <b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): |                               |  |
| <b>c</b> EIN-PN                                   | <b>d</b> Entity code          | <b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)          |





|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>SCHEDULE H</b><br><b>(Form 5500)</b><br><br><small>Department of the Treasury<br/>Internal Revenue Service</small><br><br><small>Department of Labor<br/>Employee Benefits Security Administration</small><br><br><small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small> | <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> | <small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small><br><br><b>2024</b><br><br><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b> |
|--|--|--|

|  |  |
|--|--|
| For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning <b>01/01/2024</b> and ending <b>11/30/2024</b> |  |
| <b>A</b> Name of plan<br><b>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY DC RETIREMENT PLAN</b>                                  | <b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>001</b>                 |
| <b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500<br><b>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY</b>             | <b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br><b>37-0661491</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.

|   | (a) Beginning of Year | (b) End of Year |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Assets</b>   |                       |                 |
| <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>          | 0               |
| <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>         | 0               |
| <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>         | 0               |
| <b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)..... | <b>1c(14)</b>         | 0               |
| <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>    | 17053679              | 0               |
| <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>    | 17053679              | 0               |

**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> | 252909     |           |
| <b>(B)</b> Participants.....   | <b>2a(1)(B)</b> | 314181     |           |
| <b>(C)</b> Others (including rollovers).....   | <b>2a(1)(C)</b> | 1822       |           |
| (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>    |            | 568912    |
| <b>b Earnings on investments:</b>  |                 |            |           |
| <b>(1) Interest:</b>   |                 |            |           |
| <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> | 2359       |           |
| <b>(F)</b> Other.....  | <b>2b(1)(F)</b> | 156864     |           |
| <b>(G)</b> Total interest. Add lines <b>2b(1)(A)</b> through <b>(F)</b> .....                              | <b>2b(1)(G)</b> |            | 159223    |
| <b>(2) Dividends:</b>  |                 |            |           |
| <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> | 17821      |           |
| <b>(D)</b> Total dividends. Add lines <b>2b(2)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , and <b>(C)</b> .....                  | <b>2b(2)(D)</b> |            | 17821     |
| <b>(3)</b> Rents.....  | <b>2b(3)</b>    |            |           |
| <b>(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:</b>  |                 |            |           |
| <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> |            |           |
| <b>(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:</b>   |                 |            |           |
| <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 .....                              | <b>2b(6)</b>  |            |           |
| (7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts .....                              | <b>2b(7)</b>  |            | -26669    |
| (8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts .....                      | <b>2b(8)</b>  |            |           |
| (9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities .....                            | <b>2b(9)</b>  |            |           |
| (10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) ..... | <b>2b(10)</b> |            | 1993703   |
| <b>c</b> Other income .....   | <b>2c</b>     |            |           |
| <b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....        | <b>2d</b>     |            | 2712990   |

**Expenses**

|   |               |         |         |
|---|---------------|---------|---------|
| <b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:                                  |               |         |         |
| (1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers .....             | <b>2e(1)</b>  | 3140788 |         |
| (2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits .....                               | <b>2e(2)</b>  |         |         |
| (3) Other .....   | <b>2e(3)</b>  |         |         |
| (4) Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....                 | <b>2e(4)</b>  |         | 3140788 |
| <b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....                                  | <b>2f</b>     |         |         |
| <b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions) .....         | <b>2g</b>     |         |         |
| <b>h</b> Interest expense .....   | <b>2h</b>     |         |         |
| <b>i</b> Administrative expenses:   |               |         |         |
| (1) Salaries and allowances .....   | <b>2i(1)</b>  |         |         |
| (2) Contract administrator fees .....   | <b>2i(2)</b>  | 11410   |         |
| (3) Recordkeeping fees .....  | <b>2i(3)</b>  |         |         |
| (4) IQPA audit fees .....   | <b>2i(4)</b>  |         |         |
| (5) Investment advisory and investment management fees .....                                | <b>2i(5)</b>  |         |         |
| (6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees .....                                      | <b>2i(6)</b>  |         |         |
| (7) Actuarial fees .....  | <b>2i(7)</b>  |         |         |
| (8) Legal fees .....  | <b>2i(8)</b>  |         |         |
| (9) Valuation/appraisal fees .....  | <b>2i(9)</b>  |         |         |
| (10) Other trustee fees and expenses .....  | <b>2i(10)</b> |         |         |
| (11) Other expenses .....   | <b>2i(11)</b> |         |         |
| (12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(11)</b> .....        | <b>2i(12)</b> |         | 11410   |
| <b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total ..... | <b>2j</b>     |         | 3152198 |

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

|   |              |  |          |
|---|--------------|--|----------|
| <b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> ..... | <b>2k</b>    |  | -439208  |
| <b>l</b> Transfers of assets:   |              |  |          |
| (1) To this plan .....  | <b>2l(1)</b> |  |          |
| (2) From this plan .....  | <b>2l(2)</b> |  | 16614471 |

**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: **SIKICH CPA LLC**

(2) EIN: **54-1172176**

**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"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 871    |
| <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 type="checkbox"/>            | <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 type="checkbox"/>            | <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 type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |        |
| <b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 500000 |
| <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 type="checkbox"/>            | <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 type="checkbox"/>            | <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 type="checkbox"/>            | <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 type="checkbox"/>            | <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 type="checkbox"/>            | <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"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |        |
| <b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <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 type="checkbox"/>            | <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.  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |        |

**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.)

| 5b(1) Name of plan(s)   | 5b(2) EIN(s) | 5b(3) PN(s) |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| ILLINOIS INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES MULTIPLE EMPLOYER PLAN | 20-0174619   | 333         |
|   |              |             |
|   |              |             |
|   |              |             |

**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 \_\_\_\_\_.

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>SCHEDULE R</b><br><b>(Form 5500)</b><br><br><small>Department of the Treasury<br/>Internal Revenue Service</small><br><br><small>Department of Labor<br/>Employee Benefits Security Administration</small><br><br><small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small> | <b>Retirement Plan Information</b><br><br>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).<br><br><b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b> | <small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small><br><br><b>2024</b><br><br><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b> |
|--|---|---|

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **11/30/2024**

|  |  |            |
|--|--|------------|
| <b>A</b> Name of plan<br><b>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY DC RETIREMENT PLAN</b>                      | <b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶                            | <b>001</b> |
| <b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500<br><b>BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY</b> | <b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br><b>37-0661491</b> |            |

|               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| <b>Part I</b> | <b>Distributions</b> |
|---------------|----------------------|

**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..... 

|          |  |          |
|----------|--|----------|
| <b>1</b> |  | <b>0</b> |
|----------|--|----------|

**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):  
 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..... 

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>3</b> |  |
|----------|--|

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Part II</b> | <b>Funding Information</b> (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)? .....  Yes  No  N/A  
**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 \_\_\_\_\_  
**If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.**

|   |           |  |
|---|-----------|--|
| <b>6 a</b> Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) .....  | <b>6a</b> |  |
| <b>b</b> Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year .....  | <b>6b</b> |  |
| <b>c</b> 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)..... | <b>6c</b> |  |

**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?.....  Yes  No  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? .....  Yes  No  N/A

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Part III</b> | <b>Amendments</b> |
|-----------------|-------------------|

**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.....  Increase  Decrease  Both  No

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Part IV</b> | <b>ESOPs</b> (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? .....  Yes  No

**11 a** Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? .....  Yes  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.) .....  Yes  No

**12** Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? .....  Yes  No

**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:

|   |            |  |
|---|------------|--|
| <b>a</b> The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: <input type="checkbox"/> last contributing employer <input type="checkbox"/> alternative <input type="checkbox"/> reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment)..... | <b>14a</b> |  |
| <b>b</b> The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....   | <b>14b</b> |  |
| <b>c</b> The second preceding plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....  | <b>14c</b> |  |

**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:

|   |            |  |
|---|------------|--|
| <b>a</b> The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year ..... | <b>15a</b> |  |
| <b>b</b> The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year .....                            | <b>15b</b> |  |

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

|   |            |  |
|---|------------|--|
| <b>a</b> Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year .....  | <b>16a</b> |  |
| <b>b</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..... | <b>16b</b> |  |

**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 08 / 07 / 2017 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number J600957A.



**BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY  
DC RETIREMENT PLAN**

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

For the Period Ended November 30, 2024 and  
Year Ended December 31, 2023

The background of the lower half of the page is an abstract, monochromatic geometric pattern. It consists of numerous overlapping, semi-transparent planes and lines that create a sense of depth and complexity, resembling a digital or architectural structure. The colors are shades of gray and white.

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**BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY**  
**DC RETIREMENT PLAN**  
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12655 Olive Blvd., Suite 200  
St. Louis, MO 63141  
314.275.7277

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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Board of Trustees of Blackburn University

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

We were engaged to perform audits of the financial statements of Blackburn University DC 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 November 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the period ended November 30, 2024 and 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 the 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 and from an agent on behalf of the qualified institutions as of November 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 and for the period ended November 30, 2024 and year ended December 31, 2023 stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 5 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

### **Disclaimer of Opinion**

We do not express an opinion on the financial statements of the Plan referred to in the first paragraph. Because of the significance of the matters described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section of our report, we have not been able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on the financial statements.

## **Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion**

The Plan has not maintained sufficient accounting records and supporting documents relating to certain annuity contracts and custodial accounts issued to current and former employees prior to January 1, 2009. Accordingly, we were unable to apply auditing procedures sufficient to determine the extent to which the accompanying financial statements may have been affected by these conditions.

Further, as described in Note 10 to the financial statements, the Plan has excluded from investments in the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits certain annuity contracts and custodial accounts issued to current and former employees prior to January 1, 2009, as permitted by the Department of Labor's Field Assistance Bulletin No. 2009-02, *Annual Reporting Requirements for 403(b) Plans*. The investment income and distributions related to such accounts have also been excluded in the accompanying statements of changes in net assets available for benefits. The amount of these excluded annuity contracts and custodial accounts and the related income and distributions are not determinable. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that these accounts and the related income and distributions be included in the accompanying financial statements.

## **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.

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**

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit of the Plan's financial statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and to issue an auditor's report. However, because of the matters described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section of our report, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on these financial statements.

We are required to be independent of the Plan, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits.

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

The supplemental schedule of delinquent participant contributions for the period ended November 30, 2024, 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. Because of the significance of the matters described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section of our report, it is inappropriate to and we do not express an opinion on this supplemental schedule.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sikeen CPA LLC".

St. Louis, Missouri  
September 11, 2025

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY  
DC RETIREMENT PLAN**

STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

November 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023

---

|  | <u>2024</u> | <u>2023</u>          |
|--|-------------|----------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                            |             |                      |
| Investments at fair value                | \$ -        | \$ 16,693,612        |
| Investments at contract value            | -           | 334,214              |
|  | <hr/>       |                      |
| Total investments                        | -           | 17,027,826           |
|  | <hr/>       |                      |
| Receivables                              |             |                      |
| Notes receivable from participants       | -           | 25,853               |
|  | <hr/>       |                      |
| Total assets                             | -           | 17,053,679           |
|  | <hr/>       |                      |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                       |             |                      |
| None                                     | -           | -                    |
|  | <hr/>       |                      |
| <b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</b> | <b>\$ -</b> | <b>\$ 17,053,679</b> |
|  | <hr/> <hr/> |                      |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY  
DC RETIREMENT PLAN**

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

For the Period Ended November 30, 2024 and Year Ended December 31, 2023

|  | 2024         | 2023          |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| <b>ADDITIONS IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO</b>                     |              |               |
| Investment income  |              |               |
| Net appreciation in fair value of investments                    | \$ 1,967,034 | \$ 1,664,198  |
| Interest and dividends   | 174,685      | 319,375       |
|  | 2,141,719    | 1,983,573     |
| Interest on notes receivable from participants                   | 2,359        | 1,909         |
| Contributions  |              |               |
| Employee   | 314,181      | 332,582       |
| Rollover   | 1,822        | 96,462        |
| Employer   | 252,909      | 215,126       |
|  | 568,912      | 644,170       |
| Total additions  | 2,712,990    | 2,629,652     |
| <b>DEDUCTIONS FROM NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO</b>                  |              |               |
| Benefits paid to participants                                    | 3,140,788    | 688,838       |
| Administrative expenses  | 11,410       | 13,188        |
|  | 3,152,198    | 702,026       |
| NET (DECREASE) INCREASE BEFORE PLAN TRANSFER                     | (439,208)    | 1,927,626     |
| Plan transfer out to qualified plan                              | (16,614,471) | -             |
| NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS,<br>BEGINNING OF PERIOD/YEAR   | 17,053,679   | 15,126,053    |
| <b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS,<br/>END OF PERIOD/YEAR</b> | \$ -         | \$ 17,053,679 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY  
DC RETIREMENT PLAN**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

November 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023

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**1. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN**

The following description of Blackburn University DC Retirement Plan (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan that operates under Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). The Plan covers all employees of Blackburn University (the University), who are not part of an excluded class of employees. Excluded classes of employees include non-resident aliens and students. Hourly, adjunct and employees whose pay is contractually identified as a seasonal or annual stipend are excluded from employer contributions but are allowed to make elective employee deferrals. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Plan Merger

Effective December 1, 2024, the Plan was merged into the Illinois Independent Colleges and Universities Multiple Employer Plan (IICU MEP). The net assets of the Plan were transferred to the IICU MEP at the close of business on November 30, 2024. Management of the Plan believes that the Plan merger was a tax-exempt transaction under the applicable provisions of the IRC and, therefore is not subject to federal income taxes.

Contributions

Each year, participants may contribute a portion of their eligible compensation as a pre-tax deferral through a salary reduction agreement. Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or defined contribution plans.

The University may make discretionary matching contributions. Participants are eligible to receive discretionary matching contributions if they are not in an excluded class and have completed one year of service. Catch-up contributions are not eligible for the matching contribution. For the period ended November 30, 2024 and year ended December 31, 2023, if a participant contributed at least 2.5% as a pre-tax deferral, the University contributed 5% of the participant's eligible compensation.

Contributions are subject to certain limitations as mandated by the IRC.

**BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY**  
**DC RETIREMENT PLAN**  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

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**1. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (Continued)**

Investment Options

Participants may direct all their contributions among one or more funds subject to the allocation limitations set forth in the Plan. Changes in allocation of future contributions and transfers among funds of presently invested contributions are permitted pursuant to the Plan's provisions.

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and allocations of (a) the University's contribution and (b) plan earnings (losses), and charged with the participant's benefit payments and an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings (losses), account balances, or specific participant transactions, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account balance.

Vesting

Participants are immediately vested in their voluntary contributions and discretionary matching contributions, plus actual earnings (losses) thereon.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to the maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their account balance, less defaulted loans (if any). Participants can have only 2 loans outstanding at any time. The loans are secured by the balances in the participants' accounts and bear interest at rates that range from 4.25% - 9.25%, which is commensurate with local prevailing rates as determined by the plan administrator. The term of the loan may not exceed five years or ten years if the loan proceeds will be used to acquire the principal residence of the participant. Principal and interest are paid directly by participants to Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America (TIAA).

Payment of Benefits

On termination of service, death, disability, or retirement, a participant may elect to receive a lump sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account, or partial payments, annual installment payments, or purchase an annuity contract. Effective October 1, 2024, a participant that terminates employment whose account balance is less than \$7,000 will receive a distribution of their vested aggregate account balance without the consent of the participant. If the distribution is less than \$1,000 the distribution will be made in the form of lump sum cash. If the distribution is greater than \$1,000, but less than \$7,000, the Plan will pay the distribution in an automatic direct rollover to an individual retirement account (IRA). In-service withdrawals of all or a portion of the participant's vested account balance are also permitted upon the participant's attainment of age 59 ½. Under certain conditions participants may receive a hardship distribution if certain criteria is met.

## **2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Investments 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 measure for the portion of the net assets available for benefits of a defined contribution plan attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants normally would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan.

### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements is in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (US GAAP) and requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are stated 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. The Retirement Plan Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the custodians and insurance company. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

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

### Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest less amounts defaulted (if any). Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred.

### Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

## **2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

### Administrative Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the University and are excluded from these financial statements. Loan administration fees are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses. The Plan also pays certain investment advisory and plan administration fees from plan assets. Certain investment-related expenses are included in net appreciation (depreciation) of fair value of investments.

### Recent Accounting and Regulatory Pronouncements

The SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022 was signed into law on December 29, 2022. This legislation includes a vast array of provisional changes to retirement plans, becoming effective in 2023 and beyond. Plan management adopted mandatory provisions effective for the period ended November 30, 2024 and year ended December 31, 2023. Plan management will continue to evaluate the impact of the optional provisions of SECURE 2.0 and awaiting additional regulatory guidance from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Department of Labor (DOL). The application of SECURE 2.0 Act did not have a material effect on the Plan's financial statements for the plan period ended November 30, 2024 and year ended December 31, 2023. Subsequent to the merger with the IICU MEP, amendments will be made to reflect any changes made in response to SECURE 2.0 prior to the deadline set by law or applicable regulations.

## **3. TIAA TRADITIONAL ANNUITY CONTRACT**

The TIAA Traditional Annuity is a guaranteed fixed annuity offered to plan participants through a contract with TIAA, an insurance company. The Plan invests in the following TIAA Traditional Annuity contracts: Retirement Annuity (RA), Supplemental Retirement Annuity (SRA), Group Supplemental Retirement Annuity (GSRA) and Retirement Choice (RC). The type of contract through which a participant invests in the TIAA Traditional Annuity determines the applicability of certain account features, such as the guaranteed minimum interest rate, additional interest declarations, the degree of liquidity of the participant's account, and the options for receiving income upon retirement. The SRA and GSRA contracts are considered fully benefit-responsive, and the RA and RC contracts are not considered fully benefit-responsive. Participants with RA and RC contracts have certain restrictions over the number of installments in which participant-initiated transfers and participant-initiated withdrawals are made.

**3. TIAA TRADITIONAL ANNUITY CONTRACT (Continued)**

Based on these provisions, the RA and RC contracts are considered to be non-benefit responsive. As there are no comparable restrictions over the SRA and GSRA contracts, those contracts are considered fully benefit-responsive. Fully benefit-responsive investment contracts are 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 the contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. As of November 30, 2024, the contracts were transferred into the IICU MEP. As of December 31, 2023, the contract value of the fully benefit-responsive investment contract was \$334,214. Non-benefit-responsive contracts are reported at fair value, as described in Note 4.

Participants who choose to allocate a portion of their retirement savings to the TIAA Traditional Annuity make contributions that purchase a specific amount of lifetime income based on the contractual rate of interest guaranteed by TIAA's claims paying ability. The TIAA Traditional Annuity also provides an opportunity for participants to receive additional amounts, which the TIAA Board of Trustees may declare on a year-by-year basis. These additional amounts, when declared, remain in effect for the 12-month "declaration year" that begins each March 1 for accumulating annuities and January 1 for lifetime payout annuities; they are not guaranteed for future years. Together the guaranteed minimum and additional amounts make up the crediting interest rate. The guaranteed minimum interest rate for TIAA Traditional Annuity contracts RA, SRA, and GSRA is generally 3.00% and RC is generally between 1.00% and 3.00%.

The crediting interest rate for SRA and GSRA contracts ranged from 4.50% to 4.75% for the period ended November 30, 2024 and 5.25% to 5.75% for the year ended December 31, 2023. All RA contracts are participant-initiated transfers which may only be made in ten annual installments; no lump-sum withdrawals are permitted. SRA and GSRA contracts provide for full participant-directed liquidity. All RC contracts are participant-initiated transfers which may only be made in 84 monthly installments or may be withdrawn in a single lump sum within 120 days of termination of employment which is subject to a 2.50% surrender charge.

When a participant's accumulation in the TIAA Traditional Annuity is converted to a lifetime payout annuity, the present value of the stream of payments is equal to the accumulated balance, and the entire amount is recorded as a distribution in the statements of change in net assets available for benefits.

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.

### **3. TIAA TRADITIONAL ANNUITY CONTRACT (Continued)**

Certain events limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the contract issuer. Such events include the following: (1) amendments to the plan documents (including complete or partial plan termination or merger with another plan), (2) changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options or deletion of equity wash provisions, (3) bankruptcy of the plan sponsor or other plan sponsor events (for example, divestitures or spin-offs of a subsidiary) that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, or (4) the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction exemption under ERISA. The plan administrator does not believe that any events which would limit the Plan's ability to transact at contract value with the contract issuers and with participants are probable of occurring.

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

### **4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

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

- Level 1: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access at the measurement date.
- Level 2: Inputs to the valuation methodology other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, such as:
  - a. Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets,
  - b. Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets,
  - c. Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, and
  - d. Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

#### 4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

##### Level 2: (Continued)

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

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

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

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2023.

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

*Registered investment companies:* College Retirement Equities Fund (CREF) Funds are variable annuities and are valued utilizing each account's daily NAV, which is considered by plan management to be the best approximation of fair value. The unit values are updated and posted on NASDAQ's website for each day that NASDAQ is open. There are no unfunded commitments from participants in the Plan who invest in these accounts.

*Variable annuity contracts:* TIAA Access Annuities are variable annuities and are valued utilizing the daily NAV, which is considered by plan management to be the best approximation of fair value. The unit value is updated and made available on a daily basis. There are no unfunded commitments from participants in the Plan who invest in these accounts.

*Pooled separate account:* The fair value of the Plan's interest in the TIAA Real Estate Account is based on the fund's daily NAV, which is considered by Plan management to be the best approximation of fair value. The unit value of the fund is calculated daily and available to plan administrators and client investors on NASDAQ's website. Underlying holdings are primarily valued using independent appraisals or independent pricing sources. Although the underlying assets of the fund cannot be quickly sold and converted to liquid assets, the TIAA general account provides the fund with a liquidity guarantee whereby TIAA ensures that the fund has funds available to meet participant redemption, transfer or cash withdrawal requests.

**BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY**  
**DC RETIREMENT PLAN**  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

**4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)**

*Insurance contract:* Investments in TIAA Traditional Annuity that are not fully benefit-responsive are reported at contract value, which approximates fair value. As these investments are contract-based, observable prices for identical or similar investments do not exist and, accordingly, these investments are valued using unobservable inputs (Level 3). The contract value equals the accumulated cash contributions and interest credited to the contract, less any withdrawals. Liquidity restrictions apply to these investments that could impact the value realized upon exiting the contract. In assuming the reasonableness of TIAA's methodology, the University has various procedures in place to monitor TIAA including review of performance on a fund basis and review of the reports of controls on an ongoing basis.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation 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 following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2023. There were no plan assets as of November 30, 2024.

| <b>Description</b>                   | <b>Assets at Fair Value as of<br/>December 31, 2023</b> |                |                     |                      |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|                                      | <b>Level 1</b>  | <b>Level 2</b> | <b>Level 3</b>      | <b>Total</b>         |
| Mutual funds                         | \$ 5,406,035  | \$ -           | \$ -                | \$ 5,406,035         |
| Registered investment companies      | 6,115,641   | -              | -                   | 6,115,641            |
| Variable annuity contracts           | 761,756   | -              | -                   | 761,756              |
| Pooled separate account              | 863,809   | -              | -                   | 863,809              |
| Insurance contract                   | -   | -              | 3,546,371           | 3,546,371            |
| <b>INVESTMENTS AT<br/>FAIR VALUE</b> | <b>\$ 13,147,241</b>                                    | <b>\$ -</b>    | <b>\$ 3,546,371</b> | <b>\$ 16,693,612</b> |

Fair Value of Level 3 Assets

The availability of observable market data is monitored to assess the appropriate classification of financial instruments within the fair value hierarchy. Changes in economic conditions or model-based valuation techniques may require the transfer of financial instruments from one fair value level to another. We evaluate the significance of transfers between levels based upon the nature of the financial instrument and size of the transfer relative to total net assets available for benefits.

**BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY**  
**DC RETIREMENT PLAN**  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

**4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)**

Fair Value of Level 3 Assets (Continued)

The Plan's Level 3 assets for the period ended November 30, 2024 and year ended December 31, 2023 included purchases of \$420,924 and \$132,657, respectively, and issuances of \$585,228 and \$437,496, respectively. During the period ended November 30, 2024, \$3,528,886 was transferred out of the Plan due to the merger with the IICU MEP.

The following table represents the Plan's Level 3 financial instruments, the valuation techniques used to measure the fair value of those financial instruments, and the significant unobservable inputs and the ranges of values for those inputs.

**Quantitative Information about Level 3 Fair Value Measurements  
as of December 31, 2023**

| Instrument               | Fair Value   | Valuation Techniques              | Unobservable Input                  | Range                                      |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| TIAA Traditional Annuity | \$ 3,546,371 | Discounted cash flow              | Risk-adjusted discount rate applied | RA - 4.00% to 6.75%<br>RC - 4.25% to 6.25% |
|                          |              | Theoretical transfer (exit value) |                                     |  |

**5. CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The financial data included in the accompanying financial statements as of November 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 and for the period ended November 30, 2024 and year ended December 31, 2023 has been certified as complete and accurate by TIAA and CREF and TIAA as an agent on behalf of TIAA Trust, N.A., qualified institutions. The following certified information was obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate; and has not been audited by the independent auditors for the Plan: investments at fair value, investments at contract value, notes receivable from participants, interest and dividends, interest on notes receivable from participants, and net appreciation in fair value of investments.

**6. PLAN TERMINATION**

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the University has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. Any unallocated assets of the Plan shall be allocated to participant accounts and distributed in such a manner as the University may determine.

## **7. TAX STATUS**

The University has adopted a volume submitter plan document that has received an opinion letter from the IRS dated August 7, 2017, stating that the form of the volume submitter plan document was in compliance with applicable requirements of the IRC. Although the Plan has been amended since adopting the volume submitter plan document; the plan administrator believes that the Plan is designed, and is being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC, and therefore, believes that the Plan is qualified.

US GAAP requires 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 IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

## **8. PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS**

Certain Plan investments are managed by TIAA and CREF and TIAA, as an agent on behalf of TIAA Trust, N.A., the custodians and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest. Fees paid by the Plan for investment management services were included as a reduction of the return earned on each fund. Certain administrative expenses were paid by the Plan or the University. The Plan issues loans to participants, which are secured by the vested balance in the participant's accounts. These transactions qualify as party-in-interest. Certain employees of the University provide administrative services to the Plan for which no fees are charged.

## **9. RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES**

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 value of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

## **10. OTHER MATTERS**

The Plan has not maintained sufficient accounting records and supporting documents for certain annuity and custodial accounts issued to current and former employees prior to January 1, 2009 to determine the proper accounting of plan assets.

The plan administrator has determined that these accounts meet the conditions to be excluded from plan investments. The plan administrator is unable to obtain sufficient documentation to establish the balances in these transferred accounts as of November 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023.

**BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY**  
**DC RETIREMENT PLAN**  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

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**10. OTHER MATTERS (Continued)**

As permitted by the Department of Labor's Field Assistance Bulletin (FAB) No. 2009-02, the plan administrator has elected to exclude from plan assets certain annuity and custodial accounts issued to current and former employees. The FAB specifically excludes from plan assets annuity contracts and custodial accounts for purposes of ERISA's annual reporting requirements provided that:

1. The contract or account was issued to a current or former employee before January 1, 2009;
2. The employer ceased to have any obligation to make contributions (including employee salary reduction contributions), and in fact ceased making contributions to the contract or account before January 1, 2009;
3. All of the rights and benefits under the contract or account are legally enforceable against the insurer or custodian by the individual owner of the contract or account without any involvement by the employer; and
4. The individual owner of the contract is fully vested in the contract or account.

**11. PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS**

The University failed to remit to the Plan's custodians certain employee contributions totaling \$871 within the period prescribed by DOL's regulations. Delays in remitting contributions to the custodians were due to administrative errors, and the University has made/will make contributions to the affected participants' accounts to compensate those participants for potential lost income due to the delays.

**12. SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through September 11, 2025, which was the date that these financial statements were available for issuance and determined that there were no significant nonrecognized subsequent events through that date.

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Form 5500</b><br><br>Department of the Treasury<br>Internal Revenue Service<br><br>Department of Labor<br>Employee Benefits Security<br>Administration<br><br>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation | <b>Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan</b><br><br>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).<br><br><b>▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</b> | OMB Nos. 1210-0110<br>1210-0089<br><br><div style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">2024</div><br><br><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b> |
|---|--|---|

**Part I Annual Report Identification Information**  
 For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 11/30/2024

**A** This return/report is for:  a multiemployer plan  a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)  
 a single-employer plan  a DFE (specify) \_\_\_\_

**B** This return/report is:  the first return/report  the final return/report  
 an amended return/report  a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)

**C** If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. . . . .

**D** Check box if filing under:  Form 5558  automatic extension  the DFVC program  
 special extension (enter description)

**E** If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. . . . .

**Part II Basic Plan Information**—enter all requested information

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1a</b> Name of plan<br>Blackburn University DC Retirement Plan  | <b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001<br><br><b>1c</b> Effective date of plan 08/01/1949   |
| <b>2a</b> 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><br>Blackburn University<br><br>700 College Ave<br><br>Carlinville IL 62626 | <b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN)<br>37-0661491<br><br><b>2c</b> Plan Sponsor's telephone number<br>217-854-3231<br><br><b>2d</b> 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.

|                  |                                    |         |  |
|------------------|------------------------------------|---------|--|
| <b>SIGN HERE</b> | <i>Alana Rogers</i>                | 9-11-25 | DEANA ROGERS   |
|                  | Signature of plan administrator    | Date    | Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator       |
| <b>SIGN HERE</b> |                                    |         |  |
|                  | Signature of employer/plan sponsor | Date    | Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor |
| <b>SIGN HERE</b> |                                    |         |  |
|                  | 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              |     |
|  | <b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number |     |
| <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                              |     |
|  | <b>4d</b> PN                               |     |
| <b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year  | <b>5</b>                                   | 271 |
| <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..... | <b>6a(1)</b>                               | 108 |
|  | <b>6a(2)</b>                               | 0   |
|  | <b>6b</b>                                  | 0   |
|  | <b>6c</b>                                  | 0   |
|  | <b>6d</b>                                  | 0   |
|  | <b>6e</b>                                  | 0   |
|  | <b>6f</b>                                  | 0   |
|  | <b>6g(1)</b>                               | 270 |
| <b>6g(2)</b>   | 0  |     |
| <b>6h</b>  | 0  |     |
| <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:  
2G 2L 2M

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

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

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**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.

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

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**11c** Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE**

**BLACKBURN UNIVERSITY  
DC RETIREMENT PLAN**

SCHEDULE OF DELINQUENT PARTICIPANT CONTRIBUTIONS  
FORM 5500, SCHEDULE H, LINE 4a

EIN: 37-0661491      PLAN: #001

For the Period Ended November 30, 2024

| Participant Contributions Transferred Late to the Plan                                   |                             |                             | Total that Constitute Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions |                                      |  | Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002-51 |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Check here if Late Participant Loan Repayments are Included:<br><input type="checkbox"/> |                             |                             | Contributions Not Corrected                             | Contributions Corrected Outside VFCP | Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP |  |
| Date Contributions Withheld  | Date Contributions Remitted | Date Lost Earnings Remitted |   |                                      |  |  |
| September 15, 2022   | December 30, 2022           | August 21, 2024             | \$ -  | \$ 100                               | \$ -                                     | \$ -   |
| October 15, 2022   | December 30, 2022           | August 21, 2024             | -   | 314                                  | -  | -  |
| July 19, 2024  | August 2, 2024              | Not Yet Remitted            | 457   | -                                    | -  | -  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |                             |                             | <b>\$ 457</b>   | <b>\$ 414</b>                        | <b>\$ -</b>                              | <b>\$ -</b>                                      |