## NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2011 AND 2010

## NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST

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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

The Industrial Commission State of North Dakota Bismarck, North Dakota

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust as of June 30, 2011 and 2010 and the related statements of revenues, expenses and changes in fund net assets and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trust's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements present only the North Dakota Student Loan Trust and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position and results of the operations and cash flows of the State of North Dakota, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust as of June 30, 2011 and 2010, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated September 7, 2011, on our consideration of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.



McGLADREY ALLIANCE

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Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 through 7 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements as a whole. The combining financial statements on pages 24 through 27 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations,* and also not a required part of the basic financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise ND Student Loan Trust's basic financial statements. The introductory and statistical sections have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

Brady, Mart

**BRADY, MARTZ & ASSOCIATES, P.C.** 

September 7, 2011

The discussion and analysis of the financial performance of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust (Trust) that follows is meant to provide additional insight into the Trust's activities for the years ended June 30, 2011 and 2010. Please read it in conjunction with the Trust's financial statements and footnotes, which are presented within this report.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

During the current fiscal year, there were no sales or purchases of student loans.

The FFELP Stafford Loans interest rate is based on the T-bill rate which was .06 % on July 1, 2011. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010 and 2009, FFELP Stafford student loan interest rates were based on a T-bill rate of .17% and .18% respectively. DEAL loans are available at either a fixed rate or a variable rate with the rates being adjusted quarterly. As of July 1, 2011, the fixed rate is 6.02% and the variable rate is 1.75% for ND residents and students attending school in ND; the fixed and variable rates for out-of-state students attending out-of-state schools are 7.02% fixed or 2.75% variable. As of July 1, 2010, the fixed rate was 6.00% and the variable rate was 2.04% for ND residents attending school in ND; the fixed or 3.46% variable. On July 1, 2009, the fixed rate was 5.99% and the variable rate was 2.10%; the fixed and variable rates for out-of-state students attending out-of-state schools were 7.90% fixed or 3.10% variable.

In the current fiscal year, there were no new bonds issued and there were principal payments of \$9,000 made on outstanding bonds. Of the \$9,000 principal repaid, \$8,000 was used to call the 2000 B Series Bonds on December 1, 2010. The 2000 Series B Bonds were fixed rate bonds issued at 5.85%. For the year ended June 30, 2010, there were no new bonds issued and there were principal payments of \$1,000 made on outstanding bonds.

The Trust 2011 balance sheet indicates that the Trust continues to have adequate resources to provide for bond repayment and continuing operations. There is \$13,162 of current assets, which includes \$6,178 of student loans receivable, available to meet the next fiscal year's obligations of approximately \$212. This amount includes the future obligations to the General Fund as explained under Economic Factors and Budgetary Information. The operating income of \$152 reflected in the statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund net assets also illustrates that the Trust has adequate resources to provide for bond repayment and continuing operations.

## **REQUIRED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:**

The discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the Trust's financial statements. The Trust is accounted for utilizing fund accounting and employs 1) the General Bond Resolution Fund and 2) the Second General Bond Resolution Fund. Note 1 to the financial statements provides a description of the organization, funds and significant accounting policies. The financial statements of the Trust provide accounting information similar to that of many other business entities. The Balance Sheet summarizes the assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. It also serves as the basis for analysis of the soundness and liquidity of the Trust. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Assets summarizes the Trust's operating performance for the year. The Statement of Cash Flows summarizes the flow of cash through the Trust as it conducts its business.

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (In Thousands)

	 2011	 2010	 2009
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS - UNRESTRICTED	\$ 12,660	\$ 15,928	\$ 11,953
CURRENT ASSETS - RESTRICTED	502	1,013	1,013
NONCURRENT ASSETS - UNRESTRICTED	32,808	29,863	34,680
NONCURRENT ASSETS - RESTRICTED	 5,235	 14,272	 15,279
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 51,205	\$ 61,076	\$ 62,925
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$ 212	\$ 1,457	\$ 269
NONCURRENT LIABILITIES	 5,200	 14,200	 15,293
TOTAL LIABILITIES	 5,412	 15,657	 15,562
NET ASSETS			
RESTRICTED FOR DEBT SERVICE UNRESTRICTED	 424 45,369	 766 44,653	 730 46,633
TOTAL NET ASSETS	 45,793	 45,419	 47,363
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 51,205	\$ 61,076	\$ 62,925

## Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

Trust cash, cash equivalents and investments, which are included in restricted assets, are restricted for the debt service of bond issues for the General Bond Resolution and Second General Bond Resolution purposes listed in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Trust cash, cash equivalents and investments, which are included in unrestricted assets, are unrestricted within the Trust for the overall uses of the General Bond Resolution and Second General Bond Resolution purposes listed in Note 1 to the financial statements.

## Student Loans Receivable

The student loans receivable are included in current and noncurrent assets of the balance sheet. Student loans are either insured by the federal government (FISL) or guaranteed by the North Dakota Guaranteed Student Loan Program (GSL and DEAL). All guaranteed loans and the collections and earnings therefrom are pledged as collateral to the outstanding bonds of the respective trusts. Additional discussion can be found in Notes 1 and 3 to the financial statements.

## Appropriation payable

The 2011 Legislature passed House Bill 1003 that provides for an appropriation of up to \$465 from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust to the State Board of Higher Education and \$540 for ConnectND Campus Solutions. The 2011 North Dakota Legislature also passed House Bill 1014 that provides for an appropriation from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust to the North Dakota Industrial Commission during the biennium beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2013. See Note 7 to the financial statements.

## Bonds Payable

The Trust has issued bonds in order to facilitate the purchase of student loans. The bonds payable are included in the current and noncurrent liabilities of the preceding statement. The bonds are direct obligations of the Trust and are secured by student loans purchased under the applicable resolutions, interest earnings and certain accounts established pursuant to the applicable bond resolutions. Note 5 to the financial statements provide a detailed listing of all the bonds outstanding.

#### Net Assets

The Restricted Net Assets of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust are restricted by bond resolutions to the following: 1) for the repayment of bond interest and principal, and 2) to make arbitrage rebate and yield reduction payments. Moneys held in surplus accounts can be used to redeem or purchase bonds, finance student loans, or upon certification from the Industrial Commission of North Dakota, fund a guarantee agency's guarantee program.

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (In Thousands)

## CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2011, 2010, AND 2009

OPERATING REVENUES				
Interest on student loans	\$ 1	,201	\$ 1,350	\$ 2,040
Special allowance and interest subsidy		166	 221	 605
	1	,367	 1,571	2,645
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Interest		292	559	775
Service fees		782	922	992
Benefit from arbitrage rebate and yield reduction		-	(93)	(107)
Other		141	 96	 607
	1	,215	 1,484	 2,267
OPERATING INCOME		152	87	378
NONOPERATING REVENUE		39	 59	 69
INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS		191	146	447
TRANSFERS		183	 (2,090)	 36
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS		374	(1,944)	483
TOTAL NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	45	5,419	 47,363	 46,880
TOTAL NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 45	5,793	\$ 45,419	\$ 47,363

Note 1 to the financial statements contains discussion of several of the various operating revenue and expense items pertaining to the Trust.

## Special Allowance and Interest Subsidy

The U.S. Department of Education provides a special allowance, which is a subsidy to lenders participating in the Guaranteed Student Loan Program. Also, the U.S. Department of Education pays the Trust the interest earned on subsidized student loans from the date of inception until the end of the grace or deferment period. These payments are included in the operating revenue of the Trust and further discussed in Note 4 of the financial statements.

## ECONOMIC FACTORS AND BUDGETARY INFORMATION

On December 1, 2010, the Trust called \$8,000 of 2000 B Series bonds.

The 2009 North Dakota Legislature passed Senate Bill 2003 that provides for an appropriation of \$991 from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust to the State Board of Higher Education and \$1,021 for Connect ND Campus Solutions during the biennium beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2011.

The 2009 North Dakota Legislature passed Senate Bill 2014 that provides for an appropriation from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust to the North Dakota Industrial Commission during the biennium beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2011.

The 2011 North Dakota Legislature passed House Bill 1003 that provides for an appropriation of up to \$465 from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust to the State Board of Higher Education for the professional student exchange program and \$540 for the Connect ND Campus Solutions during the biennium beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2013.

The 2011 North Dakota Legislature passed House Bill 1014 that provides for an appropriation from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust to the North Dakota Industrial Commission during the biennium beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2013.

## CONTACTING THE NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The information in this report is intended to provide the reader with an overview of the Trust's operations along with the Trust's accountability for those operations. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the North Dakota Industrial Commission, North Dakota Student Loan Trust, 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 405, Bismarck, ND 58505-0840.

## NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST BALANCE SHEETS JUNE 30, 2011 AND 2010 (In Thousands)

	2011		2010	
ASSETS				
CURRENT ASSETS - UNRESTRICTED				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,097	\$	781
Investments		4,896		8,074
Interest receivable		447		671
Due from other state agencies		11		7
Special allowance and interest subsidy receivable		31		61
Student loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses		6,178		6,334
Total unrestricted current assets		12,660		15,928
CURRENT ASSETS - RESTRICTED				
Investments		500		1,000
Due from other state agencies		-		2
Unamortized bond issue costs		2		4
Prepaid fees		-		7
Total restricted current assets		502		1,013
NONCURRENT ASSETS - UNRESTRICTED				
Student loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses		32,808		29,863
NONCURRENT ASSETS - RESTRICTED				
Student loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses		5,200		14,200
Unamortized bond issue costs		35		72
Total restricted noncurrent assets		5,235		14,272
Total assets	\$	51,205	\$	61,076

	 2011	2010		
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accrued interest payable Accrued fees payable Accrued fees payable - related party Appropriation payable	\$ 4 12 196	\$	44 13 262 1,138	
Total current liabilities	 212		1,457	
NONCURRENT LIABILITIES Bonds payable	 5,200		14,200	
Total noncurrent liabilities	 5,200		14,200	
Total liabilities	 5,412		15,657	
NET ASSETS Restricted for debt service Unrestricted Total net assets	 424 45,369 45,793		766 44,653 45,419	
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 51,205	\$	61,076	

## NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2011 AND 2010

(In Thousands)

	2011		 2010
OPERATING REVENUES			
Interest on student loans	\$	1,201	\$ 1,350
Special allowance and interest subsidy		166	 221
		1,367	 1,571
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Interest		292	559
Service fees		782	922
Administration fees		47	53
Amortization of bond issue costs		39	7
Broker dealer and auction agent fees		7	7
Benefit from arbitrage rebate and yield reduction		-	(93)
Provision for loan losses		9	(11)
Bond related expenses		39	 40
		1,215	 1,484
OPERATING INCOME		152	87
NONOPERATING REVENUE			
Investment income		39	 59
INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS		191	 146
TRANSFERS FROM (TO)			
State Board of Higher Education		183	(2,012)
North Dakota Industrial Commission		-	(78)
		183	(2,090)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS		374	(1,944)
TOTAL NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		45,419	 47,363
TOTAL NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$	45,793	\$ 45,419

## NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2011 AND 2010

(In Thousands)

	2011		 2010
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts of student loan repayments	\$	7,582	\$ 8,029
Receipts of special allowance and interest subsidy		196	228
Payments to state agency service providers		(855)	(964)
Payments to other service providers		(39)	(46)
NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		6,884	 7,247
NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Bond principal payments		(9,000)	(1,000)
Bond interest payments		(288)	(535)
Transfer to North Dakota Industrial Commission		(39)	(39)
Transfer to State Board of Higher Education		(955)	 (874)
NET CASH USED FOR			
NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES		(10,282)	 (2,448)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Investment interest received		36	54
Purchase of investment securities		(6,662)	(15,937)
Proceeds from sale and			
maturity of investment securities		10,340	 11,384
NET CASH FROM (USED FOR) INVESTING ACTIVITIES		3,714	 (4,499)
NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		316	300
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		781	 481
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$	1,097	\$ 781

## STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS – Page 2 (In Thousands)

	2011		2010	
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME				
TO NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Operating income	\$	152	\$	87
Adjustments to reconcile operating income				
Provision for loan losses		9		(11)
Amortization of lender fees		44		25
Amortization of bond issue costs		39		7
Amortization of student loan premium		46		16
Reclassification of interest income				
and expense to other activities		295		535
Changes in assets and liabilities				
Student loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses		6,111		6,229
Interest receivable		224		432
Special allowance and interest subsidy receivable		30		9
Accrued interest payable		(40)		(1)
Accrued fees payable - related party		(26)		12
Arbitrage rebate payable		-		(93)
NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$	6,884	\$	7,247

## NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### *Nature of Operations*

Section 54-17-24 of the North Dakota Century Code authorized the establishment of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust (Trust). On June 27, 1979, the Commission adopted the North Dakota Student Loan Revenue Bonds General Bond Resolution establishing the North Dakota Student Loan Trust fund. On June 19, 1996, the Commission adopted the Second General Bond Resolution and the First Supplemental Resolution to the North Dakota Student Loan Revenue Bonds - Second General Bond Resolution. The purpose of the Trust is to provide loans to students in post-secondary education. The Trust acquires eligible loans insured or guaranteed, respectively, by the United States government or the North Dakota Guaranteed Student Loan Program. All guaranteed loans and the collections and earnings therefrom are pledged as collateral to the outstanding bonds of the respective trusts.

#### Reporting Entity

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, the Trust should include all component units over which the Trust exercises such aspects as (1) appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (2) has the ability to impose its will on that organization or (3) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the Trust.

Based on the criteria of GASB Statement No. 14, no organizations were determined to be part of the reporting entity. The Trust is included as part of the primary government in the State of North Dakota's reporting entity.

#### Accounting Standards and Adoptions of Accounting Policies

The Trust follows the pronouncements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, which is the nationally accepted standard setting body for establishing generally accepted accounting principles for governmental entities. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 20, the Trust follows all applicable GASB Pronouncements as well as Financial Accounting Standards Board pronouncements issued on or before November 30, 1989, unless those pronouncements conflict with GASB pronouncements.

#### Fund Accounting

The North Dakota Student Loan Trust consists of a trust fund, which is a separate accounting entity accounted for as an enterprise fund and uses the accrual basis of accounting. The fund is set up in accordance with the authorizing act, the bond resolutions and indenture. The fund consists of the First General Bond Resolution Fund, which includes the 2004 A and Subordinate Series 2004 student loan revenue bonds and the Second General Bond Resolution Fund, which includes the 2000 student loan revenue bonds. Proceeds of bonds are recorded in the fund and used to provide student loans to eligible students. The bond resolutions require the establishment of certain accounts and sub-accounts. Bond proceeds that are deposited in these accounts are invested in qualifying investments. Interest income, interest expense, special allowance and interest subsidy, gain on redemption of bonds, and amortization of bond issue costs are recorded in this fund in accordance with the bond resolutions.

#### Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All enterprise funds are accounted for using the economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and liabilities associated with the operation of the Trust are included on the balance sheet. Net assets are segregated into restricted and unrestricted components. The statement of revenues, expenses and changes in fund net assets present increases (e.g. revenues) and decreases (e.g. expenses) in net total assets. The statement of cash flows presents the cash flows for operating activities, non-capital financing activities, and investing activities.

#### Use of Estimates

In preparing financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as of the date of the balance sheet and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Material estimates that are particularly susceptible to significant change in the near term relate to arbitrage rebate and yield reduction payables.

## Significant Group Concentrations of Credit Risk

Most of the Trust's activities are with student loan borrowers in the State of North Dakota.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Trust considers all cash and time deposit accounts with original maturities of three months or less to be cash and cash equivalents for purposes of reporting cash flows.

#### Deposits and Investments

The Trust records deposits and investments in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 31, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments". Time deposits are carried at cost, as they are nonnegotiable certificates of deposits with redemption terms that do not consider market rates. Investment securities are carried at market value. Unrealized gains and losses due to fluctuations in market value are included in investment income.

#### Bond Issue Costs, Bond Discounts, and Deferred Amounts on Refunding

Bond issue costs, bond discounts, and deferred amounts on refunding transactions are amortized over the period of time the bonds are outstanding using the bonds outstanding method. The unamortized discounts and deferred amount on refunding are shown on the balance sheet as a reduction of the bonds payable, and the amortization is included in the statements of revenues, expenses and changes in fund net assets as interest expense.

### Interest and Premiums on Student Loans

Interest on student loans is accrued when earned. For subsidized loans, interest accrued during periods of student, grace, or any authorized deferment status is billed to and paid by the U.S. Department of Education under its Guaranteed Student Loan Program. Interest during other status periods is paid by the student. For non-subsidized loans, the student pays interest.

Premiums on student loans are amortized using the straight-line method over the estimated life of the loans acquired. The unamortized premiums are reflected on the balance sheet as an addition to student loans, and the amortization is included in the statement of revenues, expenses and changes in fund net assets as a reduction of interest income.

#### Allowance for Loan Losses

The allowance for loan losses is established through a provision for loan losses charged to expense. Loans are charged against the allowance when management believes the collectibility of the principal balance is unlikely. Recoveries of amounts previously charged off are credited to the allowance.

#### Restricted Assets and Restricted Net Assets

The assets and net assets of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust are restricted by bond resolutions to the following:

- 1. For the repayment of bond interest and principal.
- 2. To make arbitrage rebate and yield reduction payments.

Moneys held in surplus accounts (which are classified as unrestricted on the balance sheet) can be used to redeem or purchase bonds, finance student loans, or upon certification from the Industrial Commission of North Dakota (the Commission), fund a guarantee agency's guarantee program. As of June 30, 2011 and 2010, the surplus accounts consist of the following:

	2011		20	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,097	\$	781
Investments		4,896		8,074
Interest receivable		447		671
Due from other state agencies		11		7
Special allowance and interest subsidy receivable		31		61
Student loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses		38,986		36,197
Appropriation payable		-		(1,138)
	\$	45,468	\$	44,653

Expenses of the Trust are paid in accordance with the provisions of the General and Second General Bond Resolutions and the Series Resolutions. Expenses related to a specific bond series are paid from funds available within that particular resolution.

#### **Operating and Non-Operating Revenues**

Operating revenues consist of sales of goods and services, quasi-external operating transactions with other funds, grant revenue for specific activities that are considered to be operating activities of the grantor, receipts from other agencies for reimbursement of operating transactions and other miscellaneous revenue. Grants that would qualify as an operating activity are those that do not subsidize an existing program, rather they finance a program the agency would not otherwise undertake.

All other revenues that do not meet the above criteria are classified as non-operating.

#### NOTE 2 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

All funds have their moneys invested in securities or deposits allowed by the General Bond Resolution establishing the Trust and the Second General Bond Resolution. Such moneys may be invested in: (1) direct obligations of or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America, (2) deposits of the Bank of North Dakota which are guaranteed as provided in North Dakota Century Code Section 6-09-10, (3) demand deposits and time deposits issued by banks, which are members of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, (4) bonds, debentures or notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued or guaranteed by any agency or instrumentality of the United States of America, (5) repurchase agreements or reverse repurchase agreements with banks, which are secured by securities which are obligations described in item (1) above, and (6) banker's acceptances of banks described in items (2) and (3) above.

#### Deposits

As of June 30, 2011 and 2010, the Trust had the following deposits (amounts in thousands):

	 2011		2010
Cash Bank of North Dakota	\$ 1,097	\$	553
Time deposits Bank of North Dakota	 5,396		9,302
	\$ 6,493	\$	9,855

As of June 30, 2011, and 2010, the Trust had the following classification of deposits on the balance sheet:

	2011		2010	
Cash and cash equivalents Investments	\$	1,097 5,396	\$	781 9,074
	\$	6,493	\$	9,855

#### Custodial and Concentration of Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the Trust will not be able to recover deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Trust does not have a formal policy that limits custodial credit risk for deposits. None of the Trust's deposits are covered by depository insurance. The Trust's deposits are uncollateralized and all of the deposits are deposited in the Bank of North Dakota and are guaranteed by the State of North Dakota (NDCC Section 6-09-10).

#### NOTE 3 - STUDENT LOANS RECEIVABLE

The Trust has outstanding loans with annual fixed and variable interest rates. Student loans are either insured by the federal government (FISL) or guaranteed by the North Dakota Guaranteed Student Loan Program (GSL and DEAL). Loans made prior to October 1, 1993 are 100% insured. Loans made thereafter are 100% insured against borrowers' death, disability or bankruptcy, and 98% insured against borrowers' default.

At June 30, 2011 and 2010, student loans are categorized as follows:

	2011		2010	
DEAL	\$	4,614	\$	5,314
GSL		39,406		44,834
		44,020		50,148
Unamortized premiums		214		304
Allowance for loan losses		(48)		(55)
Total student loans receivable		44,186		50,397
Less current portion		6,178		6,334
Noncurrent portion	\$	38,008	\$	44,063

Student loans are classified as student, deferred, repayment or claim status. The student status represents the period from the date the loan is made until a student is out of school, plus an authorized grace period. Deferred status represents a loan that has an authorized deferment of payment period. Repayment status indicates the loan is in repayment. Claim status represents those loans that have a claim filed with the guarantor. Interest earned on subsidized loans while the loan is classified as student or deferred is paid by the Department of Education.

At June 30, 2011, student loans receivable are categorized as follows:

	Su	bsidized	Unsubsidized		Unsubsidized DEAL		DEAL		Total	
Student	\$	317	\$	436	\$	8	\$	761		
Deferred		3,627		4,233		1,094		8,954		
Repayment		15,222		15,571		3,512		34,305		
		19,166		20,240		4,614		44,020		
Unamortized premiums		174		-		40		214		
Allowance										
for loan losses		(30)		(18)		-		(48)		
Total	\$	19,310	\$	20,222	\$	4,654	\$	44,186		

	Su	bsidized	Unsubsidized		Unsubsidized DEAL		DEAL		nsubsidized DEAL		Total	
Student	\$	771	\$	1,075	\$	28	\$	1,874				
Deferred		4,446		3,591		781		8,818				
Repayment		23,522		11,429		4,505		39,456				
		28,739		16,095		5,314		50,148				
Unamortized premiums Allowance		264		-		40		304				
for loan losses		(35)		(20)		-		(55)				
Total	\$	28,968	\$	16,075	\$	5,354	\$	50,397				

At June 30, 2010, student loans receivable are categorized as follows:

The composition of the allowance for loan losses for the years ended June 30, 2011 and 2010 is as follows:

	20	)11	2	2010
Balance - beginning of year	\$	55	\$	75
Provision for loan losses Loans charged off		9 (16)		(11) (9)
Balance - end of year	\$	48	\$	55

## NOTE 4 - SPECIAL ALLOWANCE AND INTEREST SUBSIDY

The U.S. Department of Education provides a special allowance, which is a subsidy to lenders participating in the Guaranteed Student Loan Program. Special allowances are computed and paid quarterly on the average daily unpaid principal amount of student loans outstanding, based on a special allowance formula which generally follows the average of the quotes of the 3-month commercial paper rates in effect for each of the days in the quarter (for loans made after January 1, 2000) or the average bond equivalent rate 91-day United States Treasury Bills auctioned during the calendar quarter (for loans made prior to January 1, 2000). The Trust records this special allowance as a receivable and as revenue when earned.

The U.S. Department of Education pays the Trust the interest earned on subsidized student loans from the date of inception until the end of the grace or deferment period. This subsidy is equivalent to the annually computed base student loan interest rate multiplied by the average unpaid loan balance for the period in which the loan is in student, grace or deferred status.

## NOTE 5 - BONDS PAYABLE

## Changes in Bonds Payable

The following is a summary of the changes in bonds payable for the years ended June 30, 2011 and 2010:

	 2011		
Balance, beginning of year Issuance of bonds Principal payments on bonds	\$ 14,200 (9,000)	\$	15,200
Balance, end of year	\$ 5,200	\$	14,200
Amounts due within one year	\$ -	\$	_

## Maturities of Bonds Payable

Bonds payable consists of the following at June 30, 2011 and 2010:

	Maturity Dates	Interest Rate (%)	_	 2011	 2010
General Bond Resolution Fund 2004 Series A	June 1, 2029	0.89	(1)	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
2004 Subordinate Series	June 1, 2029	0.89	(1)	4,200	5,200
Second General Bond Resolution Fund 2000 Series B	December 1, 2025	5.85		 -	8,000
Total bonds payable				 5,200	 14,200
Less current portion				 -	 -
Noncurrent portion				\$ 5,200	\$ 14,200
(1) Variable on June 30, 2011.					

Year ending June 30,	Prin	Principal		terest	Total	
2012	\$	_	\$	46	\$	46
2013		-		46		46
2014		-		46		46
2015		-		46		46
2016		-		46		46
2017-2021		-		232		232
2022-2026		-		232		232
2027-2029		5,200		139		5,339
	\$	5,200	\$	833	\$	6,033

The combined aggregate of future maturities and sinking fund requirements for all bonds is as follows:

The following is a more detailed description of the individual bond issues that remain outstanding at June 30, 2011 and 2010.

## 2000 SERIES B BONDS

Interest is payable semiannually on June 1 and December 1 of each year. The proceeds of the Series 2000 Bonds were used to provide funds for the acquisition of student loans from the Bank of North Dakota. The 2000 Series B Bonds are fixed rate bonds. Under certain conditions, the Industrial Commission may call for early redemption of the 2000 Series B Bonds at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount plus accrued interest to date of redemption. All of the 2000 Series B Bonds were called on December 1, 2010.

As of June 30, 2011, no 2000 Series B Bonds are outstanding.

## 2004 SERIES A BONDS

Interest is payable semiannually on June 1 and December 1 of each year. The 2004 Series A Bonds are variable rate bonds. The rate of interest is determined based on the lesser of either the one-month LIBOR plus .7% or Federal Home Loan Bank plus .7%. The maximum rate of interest is 12% per annum. Details of the terms and provisions of the variable rate bonds are outlined in Section 2.1 of the Fourth Supplemental Resolution to the State of North Dakota Student Loan Revenue Bonds First General Bond Resolution. Section 2.2 of the Fourth Supplemental Resolution to the State of North Dakota Student Loan Revenue Bonds First General Bond Resolution has deemed these to be Federally Taxable Bonds. The Series 2004 Bonds are subject to redemption prior to maturity at the option of the Commission from any source of funds, in whole or in part, on any date at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount plus accrued interest to date of redemption.

## SUBORDINATE SERIES 2004 BONDS

Interest is payable semiannually on June 1 and December 1 of each year. The Subordinate Series 2004 Bonds are variable rate bonds and are Federally Taxable Bonds. The rate of interest is determined based on the lesser of either the one-month LIBOR plus .7% or Federal Home Loan Bank plus .7%. The maximum rate of interest is 12% per annum. Details of the terms and provisions of the variable rate bonds are outlined in Section 2.1 of the Fourth Supplemental Resolution to the State of North Dakota Student Loan Revenue Bonds First General Bond Resolution. The Subordinate Series 2004 Bonds are subject to redemption prior to maturity at the option of the Commission from any source of funds, in whole or in part, on any date at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount plus accrued interest to date of redemption. (continued on next page) 20

### NOTE 6 - ARBITRAGE REBATE AND YIELD REDUCTION PAYABLES

The 2000 bond resolution contains arbitrage provisions and the 2000 bond resolution contains yield reduction provisions. These provisions state that any excess investment earnings, which are subject to rebate under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, are to be rebated to the U.S. Treasury in accordance with such regulations. The Commission through the Trust has the estimated arbitrage rebate and yield reduction amounts calculated by independent consultants in accordance with the requirements of the referenced supplemental resolutions.

Activity in these payables is as follows:

	itrage bate	Yield Reduction		
Balance, June 30, 2009 Provision (Benefit) Paid	\$ 93 (93) -	\$	- - -	
Balance, June 30, 2010 Provision (Benefit) Paid	 - - -		- - -	
Balance, June 30, 2011	\$ _	\$	-	

#### NOTE 7 - INTERFUND AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The North Dakota Student Loan Trust is related to the Bank of North Dakota through common management under the Industrial Commission of North Dakota. All cash and time deposits are deposited in the Bank of North Dakota. Interest receivable from the Bank of North Dakota totaled \$11 and \$9 as of June 30, 2011 and 2010 and is reflected as due from other state agencies on the balance sheet. Investment securities are held in safekeeping and all student loans are purchased from the Bank of North Dakota. The Bank of North Dakota also acts as the paying agent for the 2004 Subordinate Series Bonds and 2004 Series A Bonds. In addition, the Bank services the student loans held by the Trust, and maintains the accounting and other records for the Trust.

Fees expense to the Bank of North Dakota for the following services included in the accompanying financial statements were as follows:

	2	2011	2	2010
Service fees Administration fees	\$	782 47	\$	922 53
	\$	829	\$	975

Payables to the related parties for such fees amounting to \$196 and \$262 at June 30, 2011 and 2010 are included in "accrued fees payable - related party" on the balance sheet.

The transfer from the State Board of Higher Education of \$183 are monies appropriated from the Senate Bill 2003 for the professional student exchange program that the Board did not utilize during the biennium beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2011.

The 2011 North Dakota Legislature passed House Bill 1003 that provides for an appropriation of up to \$465 from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust to the State Board of Higher Education for the professional student exchange program and \$540 for the Connect ND Campus Solutions during the biennium beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2013.

The 2011 North Dakota Legislature passed House Bill 1014 that provides for an appropriation from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust to the North Dakota Industrial Commission during the biennium beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2013.

## NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The North Dakota Student Loan Trust is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts and errors and omissions. The North Dakota Student Loan Trust is administered by the North Dakota Industrial Commission and, therefore, is eligible to the same funds/pools established by the State for risk management issues. These include:

The 1995 Legislative Session established the Risk Management Fund (RMF), an internal service fund, to provide a self-insurance vehicle for funding the liability exposures of State Agencies resulting from the elimination of the State's sovereign immunity. The RMF manages the tort liability of the State, its agencies' employees, and the University System. All State agencies participating in the RMF and their fund contribution was determined using a projected cost allocation approach. The statutory liability of the State is limited to a total of \$250,000 per person and \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

The State Bonding Fund currently provides the Fund with blanket employee fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$750,000. The State Bonding Fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage.

There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year and settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

## NOTE 9 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On July 1, 2011, the Trust called \$1,000 of 2004 Subordinate Series bonds. No other significant events occurred subsequent to the Trust's year end. Subsequent events have been evaluated through September 7, 2011, which is the date these financial statements were available to be issued.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

# NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST

# NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET

JUNE 30, 2011 (In Thousands)

	General Bond Resolution Fund		Bond I	d General Resolution Fund	Combined	
ASSETS						
CURRENT ASSETS - UNRESTRICTED						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,086	\$	11	\$	1,097
Investments		-		4,896		4,896
Interest receivable		183		264		447
Due from other state agencies		-		11		11
Special allowance and interest subsidy receivable		9		22		31
Student loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses		2,257		3,921		6,178
Total unrestricted current assets		3,535		9,125		12,660
CURRENT ASSETS - RESTRICTED						
Investments		500		-		500
Unamortized bond issue costs		2				2
Total restricted current assets		502				502
NONCURRENT ASSETS - UNRESTRICTED						
Student loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses		13,504		19,304		32,808
NONCURRENT ASSETS - RESTRICTED						
Student loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses		5,200		-		5,200
Unamortized bond issue costs	. <u></u>	35				35
Total restricted noncurrent assets		5,235				5,235
Total assets	\$	22,776	\$	28,429	\$	51,205

	General Bond Resolution Fund	Second General Bond Resolution Fund	Combined
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accrued interest payable Accrued fees payable Accrued fees payable - related party Total current liabilities	\$ 4 12 97 113	\$- - 99 99	\$ 4 12 196 212
NONCURRENT LIABILITIES			
Bonds payable	5,200		5,200
Total noncurrent liabilities	5,200		5,200
Total liabilities	5,313	99	5,412
NET ASSETS			
Restricted for debt service	424	-	424
Unrestricted	17,039	28,330	45,369
Total net assets	17,463	28,330	45,793
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 22,776	\$ 28,429	\$ 51,205

## NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST COMBINING BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30, 2010

(In Thousands)

	General Bond Resolution Fund		Bond I	d General Resolution Fund	Combined	
ASSETS						
CURRENT ASSETS - UNRESTRICTED						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	740	\$	41	\$	781
Investments		84		7,990		8,074
Interest receivable		265		406		671
Due from other state agencies		-		7		7
Special allowance and interest subsidy receivable		19		42		61
Student loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses		2,078		4,256		6,334
Total unrestricted current assets		3,186		12,742		15,928
CURRENT ASSETS - RESTRICTED						
Investments		500		500		1,000
Due from other state agencies		1		1		2
Unamortized bond issue costs		2		2		4
Prepaid fees				7		7
Total restricted current assets		503		510		1,013
NONCURRENT ASSETS - UNRESTRICTED						
Student loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses		14,815		15,048		29,863
NONCURRENT ASSETS - RESTRICTED						
Student loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses		6,200		8,000		14,200
Unamortized bond issue costs		39		33		72
Total restricted noncurrent assets		6,239		8,033		14,272
Total assets	\$	24,743	\$	36,333	\$	61,076

	General Bond R			d General Resolution Fund Combined		
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS						
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Accrued interest payable	\$	5	\$	39	\$	44
Accrued fees payable		12		1		13
Accrued fees payable - related party		147		115		262
Appropriation payable		1,138				1,138
Total current liabilities		1,302		155		1,457

## NONCURRENT LIABILITIES

Bonds payable	6,200	8,000	14,200
Total noncurrent liabilities	6,200	8,000	14,200
Total liabilities	7,502	8,155	15,657

NET ASSETS			
Restricted for debt service	378	388	766
Unrestricted	 16,863	 27,790	 44,653
Total net assets	 17,241	 28,178	 45,419
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 24,743	\$ 36,333	\$ 61,076

## NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS

## YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

(In Thousands)

	General Bond Resolution Fund		Second General Bond Resolution Fund		Combined	
OPERATING REVENUES						
Interest on student loans	\$	477	\$	724	\$	1,201
Special allowance and interest subsidy		44		122		166
		521		846		1,367
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Interest		69		223		292
Service fees		385		397		782
Administration fees		22		25		47
Amortization of bond issue costs		4		35		39
Broker dealer and auction agent fees		-		7		7
Provision for loan losses		6		3		9
Bond related expenses				39		39
		486		729		1,215
OPERATING INCOME		35		117		152
NONOPERATING REVENUE						
Investment income		4		35		39
INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS		39		152		191
TRANSFERS FROM						
State Board of Higher Education		183				183
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS		222		152		374
TOTAL NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		17,241		28,178		45,419
TOTAL NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$	17,463	\$	28,330	\$	45,793

## NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010

(In Thousands)

	General Bond Resolution Fund		Second General Bond Resolution Fund		Combined	
OPERATING REVENUES						
Interest on student loans	\$	505	\$	845	\$	1,350
Special allowance and interest subsidy		65		156		221
		570		1,001		1,571
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Interest		74		485		559
Service fees		421		501		922
Administration fees		24		29		53
Amortization of bond issue costs		5		2		7
Broker dealer and auction agent fees		-		7		7
Benefit for arbitrage rebate		-		(93)		(93)
Provision for loan losses		(5)		(6)		(11)
Bond related expenses		-		40		40
		519		965		1,484
OPERATING INCOME		51		36		87
NONOPERATING REVENUE						
Investment income		7		52		59
INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS		58		88		146
TRANSFERS TO						
State Board of Higher Education		(2,012)		-		(2,012)
North Dakota Industrial Commission		(78)		-		(78)
		(2,090)		-		(2,090)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS		(2,032)		88		(1,944)
TOTAL NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		19,273		28,090		47,363
TOTAL NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$	17,241	\$	28,178	\$	45,419

## NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011 (In Thousands)

Federal Grantor/Program Title	Federal CFDA Number	Exp	Expenditures	
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION				
Direct Program: Federal Family Education Loan Program Interest Subsidy	84.032	\$	118	
Special Allowance			50	
Guaranteed Student Loans: Balance of guaranteed student loans at June 30, 2011 on which there are continuing compliance requirements			39,406	
TOTAL FEDERAL AWARDS		\$	39,574	

**NOTE 1** - The schedule of expenditures of federal awards includes the federal grant activity of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust and is presented on the accrual basis of accounting. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.* Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the basic financial statements.

## NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

There are no findings and no questioned costs relating to the federal award programs which are required to be reported in accordance with Section 510(a) of OMB Circular A-133.

**EXHIBIT A-3** 



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

The Industrial Commission State of North Dakota Bismarck, North Dakota

We have audited the financial statements of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust as of and for the year ended June 30, 2011, which collectively comprise the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated September 7, 2011. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

## Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's internal control over financial reporting.

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

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

McGladrey Alliance

#### Compliance and Other Matters

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

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, North Dakota Industrial Commission, Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee, the U.S. Department of Education, others within the entity, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Brady, Marty

**BRADY, MARTZ & ASSOCIATES, P.C.** 

September 7, 2011

**EXHIBIT A-4** 



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS THAT COULD HAVE A DIRECT AND MATERIAL EFFECT APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

The Industrial Commission State of North Dakota Bismarck, North Dakota

## Compliance

We have audited the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2011. The North Dakota Student Loan Trust's major federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to each of its major federal programs is the responsibility of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the North Dakota Student Loan Trust, complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2011.



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#### Internal Control over Compliance

Management of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust, is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's internal control over compliance with the requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program to determine the auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust's internal control over compliance.

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, North Dakota Industrial Commission, Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee, the U.S. Department of Education, others within the entity, federal awarding agencies, and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Brady, Marty

## BRADY, MARTZ & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

September 7, 2011

## PART I - SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

- 1. An unqualified opinion was issued on the financial statements of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust.
- 2. We noted no matters involving internal control that we considered to be material weaknesses during the audit of the financial statements.
- 3. The audit disclosed no instances of noncompliance which were material to the financial statements of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust.
- 4. We noted no matters involving internal control over major programs that we considered to be material weaknesses during the audit.
- 5. An unqualified opinion was issued on compliance for the major program of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust.
- 6. The audit disclosed no audit findings required to be reported under Section 510(a) of OMB Circular A-133.
- 7. The North Dakota Student Loan Trust receives federal financial assistance under one program, the Federal Family Education Loan Program (84.032), which is considered to be a major program.
- 8. The North Dakota Student Loan Trust receives federal financial assistance under one program, the Federal Family Education Loan Program (84.032), which is considered to be a Type A program. There are no Type B programs. The threshold for distinguishing between Type A and B programs was \$300,000.
- 9. The North Dakota Student Loan Trust does not qualify as a low-risk auditee under Section 530 of OMB Circular A-133.

## PART II - FINDINGS RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. There are no findings relating to the financial statements, which are required to be reported in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards.

## PART III - FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAMS

1. There are no findings and no questioned costs relating to the federal award programs which are required to be reported in accordance with Section 510(a) of OMB Circular A-133.

**EXHIBIT A-6** 



## NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT LOAN TRUST AUDITOR'S SPECIFIC COMMENTS REQUESTED BY THE NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE AUDIT AND FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

The Industrial Commission State of North Dakota Bismarck, North Dakota

The Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee requires that certain items be addressed by independent certified public accountants performing audits of state agencies. The items and our responses are as follows:

## 1. What type of opinion was issued on the financial statements?

Unqualified.

2. Was there compliance with statutes, laws, rules, and regulations under which the agency was created and is functioning?

Yes.

3. Was internal control adequate and functioning effectively?

Yes.

4. Was there any indications of lack of efficiency in financial operations and management of the agency?

No.

5. Has action been taken on findings and recommendations included in prior audit reports?

As noted in the Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings (Exhibit A-2) on page 29, there were no prior findings.

6. Was a management letter issued? If so, provide a summary below, including any recommendations and the management responses.

No.



Audit Committee Communications:

1. Identify and significant changes in accounting policies, any management conflicts or interest, any contingent liabilities, or any significant unusual transactions.

None

2. Identify any significant accounting estimates and the process used by management to determine those estimates.

Management's estimate of the allowance for loan losses was based on a provision for loan losses charged to expense. Loans are charged against the allowance when management believes the collectibility of the principal balance is unlikely. Management's estimate of the allowance for amortization of bond issue costs is amortized over the period of time the bonds are outstanding using the bonds outstanding method.

#### 3. Identify any significant audit adjustments.

None

4. Identify any disagreements with management, whether or not resolved to the auditor's satisfaction, relating to financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matters that could be significant to the financial statements.

None

5. Identify any significant difficulties encountered in performing the audit.

None

6. Identify any major issues discussed with management prior to retention.

None

7. Identify any management consultations with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters.

None

8. Identify any high-risk information technology systems critical to operations based on the auditor's overall assessment of the importance of the system to the agency and its mission.

Based on the audit procedures performed, the ND Student Loan Trust's critical information technology system is the Helms System. There were no exceptions identified that were directly related to this application.

## EXHIBIT A-6 – Page 3

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the North Dakota Industrial Commission, Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee, management, and the U.S. Department of Education, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Brady, Marty

BRADY, MARTZ & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

September 7, 2011

**EXHIBIT B-1** 



September 7, 2011

To the Industrial Commission State of North Dakota Bismarck, North Dakota

We have audited the financial statements of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust for the year ended June 30, 2011. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and, if applicable, *Government Auditing Standards* and OMB Circular A-133, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information to you in January 2011. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

## Significant Audit Findings

## Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the North Dakota Student Loan Trust are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2011. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were:

Management's estimate of the allowance for loan losses was based on a provision for loan losses charged to expense. Loans are charged against the allowance when management believes the collectibility of the principal balance is unlikely. Management's estimate of the allowance for amortization of bond issue costs is amortized over the period of time the bonds are outstanding using the bonds outstanding method. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the allowance for loan losses and amortization of bond issue costs in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear. Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements were Note 2 Deposits and Investments, Note 3 Student Loans Receivable and Note 5 Bonds Payable.



## Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

## Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management.

## Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

#### Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated September 7, 2011.

#### Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

## Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

#### (Other Information in Documents Containing Audited Financial Statements)

With respect to the supplementary information accompanying the financial statements, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

## EXHIBIT B-1 – Page 3

This information is intended solely for the use of the North Dakota Industrial Commission and management of the North Dakota Student Loan Trust and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sincerely,

Brady, Marty

BRADY, MARTZ & ASSOCIATES, P.C.