



ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

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GOVERNORS of the University who served on the BOARD in 2017-18 for the whole of the year unless otherwise stated and up until the signature of the accounts

Name	Area of Principal Expertise	Committee Membership at date of signing accounts
Chris Martin MA ACA- Chairman	Banking & Accountancy	Finance & Resources; Human Resources; Remuneration; Search & Governance
Michael Gibson – Vice Chairman	Information Technology	Finance & Resources; Remuneration; Search & Governance
Professor Stuart Bartholomew CBE M.Ed FRSA	Principal and Vice-Chancellor	Finance & Resources; Human Resources; Search & Governance
Stephanie Barton	Publishing	Finance & Resources; Human Resources
Michael Clarke LLB	Legal	Audit & Risk; Remuneration; Search & Governance
Dr Bryony Conway PhD	Higher Education	Audit & Risk; Human Resources
Janice Davies	AUB Professional Services Staff	Finance & Resources
Giorgia Garancini (appointed 4 July 2018)	AUBSU Student Governor	Human Resources
Prue Keely Davies MA	Media, Charity & Governance	Audit & Risk
Robert McClatchey	Banking & Accountancy	Finance & Resources
Gerard Moran PhD	Higher Education	Audit & Risk
Tim Newman LLB ACA	Health & Accountancy	Finance & Resources; Human Resources
Angela Neuberger BA	Media	Finance & Resources; Remuneration; Search & Governance
John Palmer (retired 29 March 18)	Marketing & Communications	Human Resources
Beth Rubery BA (retired 4 July 2018)	AUBSU Student Governor	Human Resources
Dr Kabir Shaikh CBE FRSC DUniv	Education & Administration	Audit & Risk
Dr Amanda Stephenson PhD (appointed 4 July 2018)	AUB Academic Staff	Human Resources
Peter Symons MA (retired 4 July 2018)	AUB Academic Staff	Human Resources
Sara Webb BA	Human Resources	Human Resources; Remuneration; Search & Governance
Jon Renyard MPhil	University Secretary & Registrar	

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STRATEGIC REPORT

Mission Statement

'To be the leading professional arts university dedicated to turning creativity into careers'.

1. Statement of Public Benefit

The Arts University Bournemouth (AUB) is a higher education corporation as defined by the Further and Higher Education Act of 1992 having been incorporated in 1993. It is an exempt charity within the meaning of Schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and as such is required to demonstrate how its work is of 'public benefit'. The University is not required to be registered with the Charity Commission but is however subject to the Charity Commission's regulatory powers which are monitored by the Office for Students (OfS) and previously the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) as principal regulator.

The University's objects and vision and values reflect its commitment to public benefit. The objects are set out in its Memorandum of Association which provides that:

The object shall be the establishment, conduct and development of a University for the advancement of higher and further education and as an institution for teaching and research.

The University's mission, vision, values and aims as articulated in its new Strategic Plan have been developed in support of the institution's primary purpose to develop seven academic themes which together create a framework for delivery. AUB takes a wide view of its charitable purpose; not only that prescribed by the delivery of higher and further education, but to related wider social, economic and ethical concerns locally, nationally and internationally.

The main beneficiaries are current and prospective students for whom AUB provides the opportunity to progress from the age of 16 through further education, undergraduate, post graduate and doctorate programmes in the subject areas of art, design, architecture, media and performance providing them with the skills to be creative practitioners.

The cost of higher education, which is not only tuition fees but also includes accommodation and living costs, can be a barrier to many students. AUB through its Student Services provision supports students in their applications for funding from a wide range of sources and administers the Access Bursary Scheme which in 2017-18 distributed over £400k in funding to eligible students which is in line with predictions in the Access Agreement for financial support for students.

The Board of Governors has had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on the reporting of public benefit and its supplementary public benefit guidance on the advancement of education. Through its range of activities AUB provides benefits to different sections of the public as follows:

1.1 Teaching

- Enrolled a total of 3,335 undergraduates, 107 taught postgraduates and 11 research postgraduates from the UK, EU and Overseas, an additional 311 Further Education students as well as 1,650 students on dedicated specialist short courses. The Further Education courses act as a bridge to our undergraduate courses, and our goal is to ensure that at least 50% of these students, upon successful completion of their studies, progress to degree courses internally.
- Work on activities identified through the Creative Learning Plan continued to be developed. These focused on the enhancement of the student learning experience through both academic staff development and the review of existing teaching and assessment practices. An 'Authenticating Practice in Teaching Scheme' was implemented; workshops were held to support staff in writing applications for Fellowship and Senior Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy; the second Creative Learning Symposium was held with a focus on 'Perceptions of Excellence'; and AUBRIETA awards (AUB Recognition for Innovation and Excellence in Teaching Awards) were introduced.
- Undertook the annual Student Perception Survey (SPS) and secured constructive student feedback through student attendance at meetings, and regular meetings of senior management with Students' Union representatives to ensure that the University is fulfilling student expectations and gathering suggestions for continuous improvement.
- Dedicated capital investment to upgrade course space for Performance Design subject area; and improved spaces for honours degrees in Fine Art, and Animation Production. There has also been significant work to reconfigure the Library ground floor, providing greater space for students to work.
- Retained the TEF GOLD rating by DfE/OfS for outstanding teaching and learning; and following an inspection by OFSTED of the university's further education provision was awarded 'Outstanding'.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)
1.2 Enabling Participation

- Continued the outreach work aimed at widening participation in higher education, particularly among students from non-traditional backgrounds, minority groups and disabled persons. Developed clear strategy to target this work effectively.
- Implemented the University's new Access Agreement which underlines our commitment to widening participation and fair access and incorporates eligibility for AUB bursary schemes.
- Continued excellent take-up of bursaries and associated benefits, including bicycle vouchers to encourage a reduction in car usage.
- Developed a new Access and Participation Plan for 2019-20 entry, in accordance with the requirements of the new Office for Students while taking account of AUB's strategic developments. This Plan retains a strong focus on outreach work and support for the retention of non-traditional students, including work to consider the on-course experience of students from minority groups.
- 276 enrolments to Saturday Art School, including 16% from disadvantaged backgrounds who received concessionary/complimentary places.
- 736 undergraduate students from the lowest socio-economic groups who receive full maintenance grants and are eligible for financial support.
- Portfolio advice days and Summer Schools for students from local schools from under-represented groups.
- Taster Days for students from schools with lower GCSE achievements, leading to increased applications from these groups.
- AUB is a member of the Southern Universities Network (SUN) in the OfS funded National Collaborative Outreach Programme (NCOP). Together with partner HEIs in Hampshire outreach activity and progression opportunities were delivered to target ward learners in the region of Dorset/Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The programme aims to narrow the gap and see progression from those students with potential.
- Theatre in Education 'Choices' which had been devised by AUB was delivered across the region through the NCOP SUN.
- A Headteacher / Governors' CPD event with keynote address by Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI) and National Lead *Visual* and *Performing Arts* was hosted at AUB, attracting nearly 90 delegates.
- CPD specialist workshops for arts teachers across the region.

1.3 Research and Knowledge Transfer

- Work on activities detailed in the Research and Knowledge Transfer Plan 2014-19 continued in support of establishing an appropriate and effective, research, enterprise and knowledge transfer environment reflective of the research ambitions of AUB's staff and students. Work also continued in support of submission to the next Research Excellence Framework exercise (REF 2021). A series of research workshops were held ranging from research ethics, applying for funding and writing for publication; and support for academic writing was enhanced through a series of writing workshops and a week-long 'Writing Boot Camp'.
- The developing research agenda at AUB was supported by the second Research Conference which had a theme of 'Exploring research methodologies' and featured presentations from staff and members of the Professoriate on a diverse range of research methodologies including action research, mixed methods and practice-led research.
- The University awarded several research fellowships to enable staff to write up their PHD theses for publication as single-authored books and develop edited books from work presented at conferences organised and held at the University. Further research awards and grants enabled staff to undertake primary research, obtain copyright clearance for books and support practice-based research outputs including exhibitions.
- The University was successful in being awarded its first AHRC Research Network with Nottingham Trent University. The Network, led by AUB and comprising researchers, professional textile practitioners, project commissioners and enthusiast textile maker groups, aims to generate improved critical understandings of participatory textile making as an emerging methodological approach to research.
- Staff practitioners were successful in delivering conference papers in Belgrade, Montreal and Lisbon and staff produced peer reviewed journal articles, book chapters and practice-based outputs as highlighted on the staff profiles pages of the University's website.
- The University has been delivering the European Structural Investment Fund (ESIF) project to support Small to Medium Enterprises, start-ups and Social Enterprises in the Dorset region to develop new products and services. The overall project is approx. £1.2 million of investment. So far, over 40 companies, have been supported with a mix of grants, match-funded partnerships and access to AUB expertise. The University has run a series of networking workshops titled 'Meet the Maker' aimed at opening AUB up to the business community.
- Work has started on building the innovation studio that will support graduate start-ups and local businesses. The University was part of a consortium led by Kings College London and including Bournemouth Borough Council bidding to the AHRC Creative Clusters Fund. The bid was ultimately unsuccessful but the proposal made it to the final 12 interviewed for 8 clusters.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)
1.4 Wider Community

- Museum of Design in Plastics (MoDiP) is the UK's only accredited museum with a focus on plastics, the most used materials group in manufacture since the 1970s. The museum is open to the public and is also a universal resource as a result of its comprehensive website and the digitisation of its collection.
- MoDiP's core funding is provided by the AUB, supplemented by a Research England grant of £75K per annum from September 2017 for five years. This grant is in recognition of MoDiP's 'unique and significant contribution to research and scholarship.' During the year under review it has supported MoDiP's move to a larger space, enabling a new permanent display on the history and development of plastics and doubling the number of visitors that can be accommodated; and the recruitment of an Engagement Officer with the brief to increase use of the resource both within and beyond the AUB. As a result MoDiP's visitor figures have increased by 38.5% even though the Museum was closed for 11 weeks during the migration.
- MoDiP also endeavours to raise funds for specific projects. During the year it successfully completed the Arts Council England's Resilience Fund (£36,460) project 'Symbiosis: a new model of sustainability for small specialist museums', which involved collaboration with 20 other small specialist museums. It has resulted in a guide to help specialist museums get closer to their industries and includes the products of four such collaborations between MoDiP and the plastics and design industries which resulted from the project. The outcomes of the project can be seen at <https://www.modip.ac.uk/projects/symbiosis>.
- MoDiP has also received an Arts Council England's Grant for the Arts (£14,548) to provide a residency at the museum for a musician/composer, Karen Wimhurst. This has led to the development of an experimental theatre-music work w-RAP: a plastics serenade for a synthetic century, a project in three parts. w-RAP One was premiered at AUB by students from Ferndown Upper School. Guided by the composer, they considered the story of plastics and came up with their own compositions and musical work. Central to this was 'the w-RAP band' which they formed, performing on all kinds of plastics waste materials alongside instruments of their own. Bottle bassoons were also constructed by primary schools in the area. w-RAP Two, is an experimental music work, which explores the light and dark faces of plastics. A performance, directed by leader of the AUB's Acting Course, Katharine Piercey, was performed at the Lighthouse, Poole, on 26 September 2018. It constituted the first time the plastics debate was addressed on the stage. w-RAP Three will further develop the work.
- MoDiP held two exhibitions both of which have a permanent online version on the MoDiP website. Spotlight on... 2 (16 October 2017 to 9 March 2018), which was the second in a series of exhibitions that puts the spotlight on manufacturers and designers who embrace plastics as a material of value. Polyphonic: music through plastics (16 March 2018 to 7 September 2018), which explores how music can be played, broadcast, and listened to through plastics and was complemented by the aforementioned w-RAP project.
- The MoDiP website has also been redesigned to give it a responsive platform and thus work better on mobile phones and tablets; to enable it to hold more content in an accessible manner; and to enable users to develop lists of favourite objects. Use of the website has increased by 40% during the year.
- TheGallery at Arts University Bournemouth (AUB) is a major resource for contemporary art and design in the South of England and is open to the general public. Many of the exhibitions and artists' commissions that have been produced within the space since its opening have toured to other venues across the UK.
- In September 2017 TheGallery launched its exhibition programme with Suddenly Last Summer showcasing the best of student graduate work the timing of which coincided with a number of Open Days thus providing inspiration for future students/artists. This was followed by Black Mirror: Magic in Art featuring the work of 14 international artists and supported the research themes of a number of staff.
- TheGallery's feature exhibition was Zaha Hadid Architects: Evaluation building on the relationship that the University had established with the now deceased Zaha Hadid. The exhibition explored how this innovative studio has evolved its design processes by adopting digital technologies over the past thirty years to create some of the most distinctive and creative buildings in the world.
- TheGallery has overseen the Lucienne Day: Living Design touring exhibition at 4 separate venues thus increasing its exposure. Over 600 young learners attended workshops and gallery talks for schools related to the various exhibitions and TheGallery in total had over 40,000 visitors.
- The Performance subject areas staged a number of productions at the University; the Pavilion at Bournemouth; and at the Lighthouse and Elliott Road in Poole which have all been accessible to the public. The repertoire has been extensive ranging from Bruce Norris' Clybourne Park, Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare, Lillian Hellman's The Children's Hour and the musical Oh! What a Lovely War by Joan Lockwood to mark the end of World War I.
- The University sponsored a performance of Picture Perfect by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra featuring piano compositions by Debussy, Ravel and Mussorgsky. This event provided students on the BA (Hons) Illustration the opportunity to mount a complementary exhibition of prints based on the original illustrations that inspired the music and represented a contemporary take on the interplay between music and visual art.
- In May and June 2018 the Summer Show Exhibitions took place across the campus, transforming the entire institution into a huge open air gallery. The intention behind the shows is to provide a showcase for industry professionals, current and prospective students and their families, and the wider community. The shows promote the understanding of contemporary arts regionally and provide a platform for schools to explore possible progression routes in the creative industries.
- Enrolments on the short leisure courses programme developed for the local community were approximately 1,200.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

2 Strategy and Risk Analysis

2.1 Strategic Plan

Following extensive consultation, the Governing Board in July considered a draft strategic framework, which was approved in principle. It incorporated the following refinements to the previous AUB Strategic Plan 2014-2019 and recognised the challenges across the HE Sector:

- A revised and more focused mission statement which includes professional outcomes as well as careers;
- A revised vision statement which continues the theme of maker culture but within a global and critical context;
- Renewed emphasis on the core values;
- The seven academic themes will drive the framework as set alongside the aims to demonstrate how the themes are embraced in all the aims;
- ‘Community’ has replaced the word ‘Stakeholders’ as more fitting to AUB; and
- The sustainability enabler includes environmental as well as financial and organisational sustainability.

The strategic framework which has now been agreed is as follows:

Mission: *To be the leading professional arts university dedicated to creative education and professional success*

Vision: *To develop our national and international distinctiveness, by ensuring our maker culture and creative leadership is set within relevant contexts.*

Values: *To embrace innovation, collaboration and connectedness.*

Aims: *To be the leading professional arts university that enriches and engages through creative and professional excellence.*

To be dedicated to access and success in creative education.

To be a distinctive arts university held in high esteem for creative education and leadership.

Academic Themes

- *All through provision;*
- *Innovative teaching and curriculum design;*
- *Strengthen research and post graduate education;*
- *Outstanding student experience;*
- *AUB Advantage;*
- *Extended and short study; and*
- *Internationalisation.*

Looking Forward

The immediate core challenges in delivering the strategic plan are to:

- Maintain academic excellence at UG levels (TEF 2019);
- Grow and develop PGT and PGR and Research excellence (REF 2020);
- Recruitment to all provision (Prep HE, UG, PG, Short Study Options); and
- Efficiencies in resourcing.

The challenge will be to deliver the above in a difficult political and economic climate, with the lowest demographic of young people, exasperated by a continuing reduction in schools delivering creative subjects. The challenge of TEF data related to NSS, Graduate Outcomes and Retention continue to be a major concern for academic delivery. A focus on recruitment and enrolment will be essential.

Therefore, work is now ongoing to align our structure to deliver the core challenges and build resilience for the future whilst always ensuring delivery of the mission. Recognising that AUB is a small centrally driven institution, because of its size, a new distributed leadership team for collective delivery will enable it to become more than the sum of its parts.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

2.2 Looking Forward

AUB is a specialist provider of high quality teaching, learning and scholarship which is closely aligned to the creative industries. The distinguishing characteristics of the course offer are the maker culture and studio-based learning informed by innovative research and scholarship, an emphasis on cross-discipline collaboration and strong industry links.

The emphasis will be on impressing on applicants that they will have an inspirational student experience informed by staff who are highly qualified teachers, researchers and practitioners and will be treated as innovative student makers. Their studies will be informed by a curriculum that pushes boundaries and connections with peers in the academy and industry in meeting career aspirations. They will have an education supported by high quality facilities, physical and digital resources that are appropriate to their needs and those of an arts university. And most importantly they will have the opportunity for progression and personal development.

Students have always been at the heart of the Arts University mission and as a result the University to date has adjusted well to the new market-based funding environment in which institutional income is largely driven by student fees rather than block grants. The values, identity and shared sense of purpose have ensured that the University remains a destination of choice for many students.

2.3 Risk Analysis

The key risks facing the University continue to relate to changing Government policy and priorities particularly in light of the current uncertain political and economic environment. A detailed review of the known risks to the Arts University Bournemouth is provided at section 5.8.

3 Academic Review

3.1 Academic Excellence

The University is proud of its reputation for academic excellence. With its aspiration to be the leading professional arts university dedicated to turning creativity into careers, it is imperative that the AUB's courses are of an appropriate standard and that its graduates are of the highest quality. The award of a Gold in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) provides objective confirmation of our success in delivering outstanding education to students from all backgrounds. The University was assessed as fully meeting HEFCE's requirements for quality and standards in its Annual Provider Review (APR).

The high quality of graduates is demonstrated by the fact that 96.2% of students were in employment or further study six months after graduation in June 2017 on a response rate of 88%. This is ahead of benchmark (94.5%), and represents an excellent achievement.

3.2 Student Experience

The University continues to pride itself on the quality of student experience offered. Overall satisfaction as expressed in the National Student Survey (NSS) was 81%, which was again consistent with subject benchmark and was ahead of the outcomes achieved by competitor courses, although specialist institutions within the creative arts and design sector continue to perform disappointingly. The University performed particularly strongly on measures relating to Learning Resources, which is a reflection of the systematic investment in IT and equipment to support student learning.

The internal Student Perception Survey (SPS) showed excellent outcomes, with 89% of students confirming that they are satisfied with the quality of the course; and 92% confirming that if they had the choice again, they would still come to the Arts University Bournemouth.

The University has made a significant commitment to improving the Digital Environment for Learning, Teaching and Assessment (DELTA). The major development for 2017-18 was the introduction of the submission, assessment and feedback of work using an online portal. Following extensive planning during 2016-17, this was implemented fully for all Level 4 students during the last year, with over 90% of students confirming that they found the system quick and easy to use.

Inevitably, some minor technical issues arose during the year; each of these was resolved but sometimes required a manual workaround. The workplan for summer 2018, and the coming academic year, includes technical solutions to some of the issues which were identified, as well as a roll-out to Levels 4 and 5 for 2018-19. A key change during the coming year will be the delivery of assessment feedback using an entirely online system, rather than the upload of a pdf document. There is a full plan for development for the period 2018-20, although this is subject to revision as required.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)**3.3 Academic Portfolio**

The changing shape of the higher education sector in England, with significantly higher tuition fees for undergraduate students, places a premium on the presentation of an attractive portfolio of awards which make a strong contribution to the overall specialist offer. Two new Honours degree courses were introduced in 2017-18 (in Creative Writing, and Fashion Branding and Communication), and BA (Hons) Drawing commences in 2018-19. The University is currently considering the development of new undergraduate awards in Design, and Art and Design History.

3.4 Doctoral study

AUB acknowledges that research and scholarship are an essential aspect of a higher education institution, which supports delivery of a high quality student experience. It prioritises investment in this area in a number of ways including supporting staff to study for doctoral qualifications and to undertake supervisory training. Two staff achieved their doctorates in the past year with a further one currently undertaking minor corrections following examination. A further nine staff are being supported to undertake this qualification in 2018-19.

AUB continues to support research students through providing a contribution towards their fees. Two new practice-based research degree opportunities for a studentship and bursary were advertised for and successfully recruited in the area of drawing; these students will be supervised by the Professor of Drawing and will contribute to a new Drawing Research Group. The University held its second doctoral examination with a further two vivas planned for autumn 2018. Twelve doctoral students are currently studying for, or completing, their theoretical and practice-based research degrees. Supervisory capacity increased with the appointment of new members of staff to supervisory teams.

3.5 Teaching

The Centre for Creative Learning has continued to push forward on several strategic fronts to enhance learning, teaching and the student experience across AUB. Always a key area of the University's focus, this activity is now central to the University's requirement continue to meet the developing requirements of the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) and its attendant mechanisms for evidencing a university's commitment to learner achievement. We have run the second Employability and Entrepreneurship Week which had 14 external organisations delivering workshops on key skills to 233 students. We have also developed an ongoing programme of business support and post-graduation boot camp for business and interview skills.

In particular we note progress against targets and related activities such as: 1) the strategic development of the Digital Environment for Learning, Teaching and Assessment (DELTA); 2) increasing the opportunities for engagement with creative pedagogy; 3) increasing the qualifications and professional accreditation of HE academics; 4) improving the capture of professional development activity; and 5) the introduction of schemes to support teaching including Teaching Awards.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)
4 Organisational Sustainability

In order to deliver to its strategic objectives the University must ensure that it is sustainable and provides value for money to all its students and clients. Despite the uncertain future funding environment it is important to continue to invest and to optimise existing resources in order to improve the quality of provision and achieve efficiencies.

4.1 Staffing

During the 2017-18 academic year the University introduced an Academic Career Framework to, amongst other objectives, recognise and reward teaching, research and knowledge transfer excellence that will contribute to the recently/newly formed agendas of TEF and REF; encourage staff retention and reward excellence beyond managerial roles; and recognise managerial responsibilities and academic leadership. The Framework has enabled the introduction of a new academic post, the Early Career Academic, to provide an entry level point for individuals to be developed from. In addition the posts of Associate Professor and Professor were introduced to recognise individuals' outstanding contribution and/or achievement to research, teaching or knowledge transfer.

Resourcing continued to be a key area of focus for the HR department to support the University in attracting and appointing high quality staff to the institution. Improved utilisation of social media methods to advertise vacancies has assisted in containing the costs per vacancy data. The commitment to recruit staff with the required range of academic qualifications to join our highly influential teams has continued and the positive trajectory to increase numbers of teaching qualifications, HEA memberships and PhD holding staff has been achieved.

The University's approaches to performance management have improved, in particular with the application of the probationary process in identifying staff who may or may not be meeting performance expectations. The University's Performance Procedure has been implemented to support staff in achieving an improved performance level.

Online training in key areas of compliance such as Equalities and GDPR was introduced with all staff having a mandatory requirement to complete these modules during the Summer Term.

The staff performance review system provides the facility for academic staff to capture their teaching and learning activity in addition to research and knowledge transfer activity. This enables academic staff to build up their portfolios in respect of these crucial areas of activity, both for their own development and the University's strategic reporting and planning for TEF, REF and it is anticipated that it will also be useful for KEF (Knowledge Exchange Framework) purposes.

In response to concerns in respect of increased sickness absence levels for reasons of mental health as well as the national concern over student welfare, the University introduced Mental Health Awareness Training in partnership with the organisation Mental Health First Aid England, who are experienced providers of such training within the sector. The training has been well received by staff and is planned to continue in the next academic session, with the aim of ensuring all staff have the opportunity to attend.

National negotiation in respect of the annual pay award was unsuccessful this year, with AUB's recognised unions UCU and Unison both refusing to accept the employers' final position of a 2% increase (slightly higher increases for the lower band salary points). As authorised by the employers' national negotiator, UCEA, the University has however implemented the pay increase as it was felt it was unfair on staff to withhold this. This pay increase is in addition to the incremental payments of circa 3% that approximately half of staff who are not at the top of their pay scale receive subject to satisfactory performance.

There are in total 11 Trade Union representatives which equate to 10.8 FTE of which 10 representatives spent less than 50% of working hours on facility time and 1 representative didn't spend any time on this activity. The total number of paid hours spent on facility time was 582 of which 59.5 was on paid trade union activity which equates to 10.22% of total paid facility time spent on paid Trade Union activities. The total cost of facility time was £12,516 representing 0.08% of total pay costs of £16.38m.

4.2 Equality & Diversity

All members of the University's community including staff, students, visitors and contractors have a responsibility to treat others fairly and respectfully regardless of the characteristics which may define their identity. These include the legally protected characteristics which are: Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Marriage and Civil partnership, Pregnancy and maternity, Race, Religion or belief (including lack of belief), Sex and Sexual orientation. The University has committed to provide a working and learning environment founded on dignity, respect and equity where discrimination of any kind is treated with the utmost seriousness.

The Equality and Diversity Plan 2015-2020 was progressed during the last year. The Plan identifies five equality and diversity imperatives: Compliance, Communication, Curriculum, Campus and Continuous Professional Development. Equalities Committee has established small sub-groups to oversee the respective strands, each advising the Senior Officer (Equalities) on the activities and targets for the year.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)
4.2 Equality & Diversity (continued)

The Communication sub-group noted the importance of raising awareness of equality and diversity issues across the academic community. In consequence, it has introduced a range of round-table events. The events focus on each of the strands in turn, and the intention is to invite at least one external speaker to each event. Attendance is by invitation only, to ensure that there is broad representation over a three-year period. Feedback from the events in 2017-18 was very positive, with many more staff being involved in discussion.

The University undertook a formal Gender Pay Audit during the last year. Whilst the outcomes appeared disappointing, in that the mean pay gap was 10.3%, further investigation showed that the primary cause of this result was that many of the lowest paid staff were female; and these were primarily student ambassadors. This is not surprising, given the high proportion of females within the student population, but the University is considering how it may be able to address this in future.

4.3 Estates and Infrastructure

Significant progress has been made in the progression of the new Innovation Centre which is partly funded by the Local Economic Partnership in order to support businesses in the area to research and innovate their ideas with the assistance of University staff. It is envisaged that many of the businesses supported will be AUB graduate start-ups. Planning permission for a distinctive building designed by the CRAB studio, has been obtained and the tendering of the project is at an advanced stage. In addition RIBA Stage 4 detailed design has been achieved in respect of the 300 bed student accommodation block on Plot Q which will represent a £26m investment by the University and expected to be completed in the early Summer of 2020.

Some minor works were undertaken to provide enhanced space for courses in Fine Art and Animation Production and to support the new degree courses in Creative Writing and Fashion Branding and Communication. In summer 2018, additional space was provided for the popular BA (Hons) Make-up for Media and Performance.

The consolidation of space within the Library building provided dedicated accommodation for the Digital Campus Services team, with the Servicedesk now available within the Library which has significantly enhanced access for students. The Library also introduced "LapSafe", which makes laptops available for students to borrow for a limited period of four hours. The success of this service has led to the purchase of an additional bank of laptops. The team has been monitoring usage by course, to determine whether further banks might be introduced at other points within the University.

The University continues to enhance its accommodation offer. It currently has lease agreements for three residential accommodation blocks within the Bournemouth area, as well as the dedicated provision at the town centre Madeira Road location. The agreement to lease four houses in George Close was discontinued, because of the small numbers involved. More significantly, the University achieved planning permission for a major residential development on a site adjacent to the main campus, known as Plot Q and will provide an additional 300 beds. Construction is due to start in Autumn 2018, with the first students to move in for the 2020-21 academic year.

4.4 Environment and Sustainability

The University remains committed to sustainability, both to respond to the University's moral obligations to the environment, and to bring about cost-savings where possible.

The University developed a Sustainability Plan for the period 2015-2020, with objectives identified against five key strands of activity: Minimising carbon emissions, Managing the use of finite resources, Reducing emissions associated with travel, Managing the estate efficiently and Developing staff and student awareness and engagement. Each strand is overseen by a sub-group on behalf of the Environment Committee, which reports to the University Management Team.

Following the third year of the Plan, the University has been able to report significant achievements, most notably a per capita fall of over 50% in carbon emissions against the 2005/06 baseline. This was against the key target of the five year plan of a 40% reduction and continued improvement is a major achievement. The Committee has also approved a biodiversity plan and is investigating Fairtrade certification. It has also secured a Bronze award from Eco-campus and is eligible to apply for a Silver award during the coming year.

A revised Carbon Management Plan for the period 2018-21 was approved. This is a requirement of continued registration by the Office for Students, but the Environment Committee took the view that a shorter-term plan would be appropriate as it would permit some additional research to be undertaken before determining longer-term targets. It would also enable the next iteration of the Plan to respond to the University's revised Strategic Plan and associated objectives.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)
5 Financial Information
5.1 2017-18 Financial Review of the Year

The University's surplus after tax for the year ended 31 July 2018 was £1.4m which is lower than the prior year surplus of £3.3m due to additional staffing and operating costs.

The key highlights are:

	2018	2017	2016
Financial Summary	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income			
Funding Council Grants	2,922	3,427	3,189
Tuition Fees	32,857	31,340	29,589
Other Income	7,368	5,766	4,992
Total income	43,147	40,533	37,770
Expenditure			
Staff Costs	18,663	16,797	15,561
Operating Expenses	16,283	13,987	14,188
Depreciation	5,099	4,882	4,142
Interest Payable	1,708	1,586	1,548
Total expenditure	41,753	37,252	35,439
Taxation	(22)	(20)	(1)
Gain on Investment	22	44	17
Surplus before tax	1,394	3,305	2,347

In spite of increased competition from competitor institutions, the University recruited more than 80 students above the financial target. However the increase was not evenly distributed across courses with some areas proving extremely popular and others showing a slow decline. The uneven distribution of numbers meant making adjustments to accommodation, recruiting additional staff to maintain the student experience and procuring materials and equipment.

The University has recognised that it must offer more accommodation to first year recruits in order to secure their enrolment and attendance. To that end the University procured 153 beds in the centre of Bournemouth by means of a short lease increasing the total number of beds to 704 which represents less than half of new first year enrolments. In recognition of this issue the University has advanced plans to build 300 beds of accommodation on the campus and these accounts reflect the costs incurred to date on that exercise.

During the academic year it was noted that the number of applications to attend AUB in 2018-19 had fallen due to increased competition, the adverse impact of negative press reports on student debt, the promotion of university degree apprenticeships and last but not least the demographic downturn. To secure the University's future enrolments more money was spent on marketing and a comprehensive Clearing strategy was implemented.

In comparison to previous years the capital programme was much reduced as the University had completed its major building construction plans in 2016 however the completion of the purchase of the adjacent Plot Q was a major milestone the cost of which was partly defrayed by the drawdown of the remaining £2million of the loan facility the net effect of which was to have a slight increase in cash balances at yearend.

Further details are as follows:

Income

Overall total income has increased by 6.4% to £43.1m (2017: £40.5m).

This increase was accounted for by a 5.1% increase in tuition fee income to £32.9m (2017: £31.3m), Other Income of £7.4m representing a 27.8% increase offset by a 14.7% decrease in Funding Council Grants.

Tuition fee income has increased as a result of the higher student numbers recruited in first year and more International students on Higher Education (HE) courses as reduced by a fall in income from Further Education (FE) courses.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)
Income (continued)

The increase in Other Income is due to the acquisition of 153 extra beds in Bournemouth at the beginning of the academic year. In addition Short Courses has generated more income by the provision of bespoke courses.

The decrease in Funding Council Grants is due to less 16-18 students doing FE courses and a reduction in funding for students whose characteristics may put them at a disadvantage of completing their HE qualification.

Expenditure

Staff Costs increased by 11% to £18.7m (2017: £16.8m) due to a 7.7% increase in staff numbers, the pay award of 1.7% for 2017-18 and incremental drift of 3% to which half of the staff who are not at the top of their pay scale are entitled. The increase is also accounted for by higher pension FRS102 adjustments of £642k when compared to last year. The past year costs also reflect a full year of the Apprenticeship Levy of 0.5% of payroll. The increase in staff numbers includes a significant number of technicians who support the students in the maker culture of the institution.

The increase in Operating Expenses by 16% to £16.3m (2017: £14m) includes rental costs of £1m for the new halls accommodation block in the centre of Bournemouth. In the past year costs have been incurred in the acquisition of Plot Q and the progression of plans to build and fund a student accommodation block to include legal, VAT advice, financial advice and loan fees of £80k. The challenging recruitment conditions meant additional marketing spend was authorised and towards the end of the year it was ascertained that the University needed to spend more on bursaries to ensure that it complied with its Access Agreement an area of increased focus for the OfS.

Depreciation has increased to £5.1m (2017: £4.9m) due to an increase in equipment additions including computers and furniture and a full year's depreciation being charged on the capitalisation of building works in the accounts of the previous financial year. Interest Payable has increased by 7.6% as a result of the full drawdown on the £7m loan facility offset by the reduction in interest on existing loans as they are repaid. In addition the FRS102 pension interest has increased by £91k.

Surplus

The FRS102 surplus has decreased by 58% to £1.4m (2017: £3.3m) and represents 3.2% of turnover. A significant contributing factor to the decrease has been the FRS102 pension adjustments totalling an extra £733k and also the one off costs of the Plot Q developments in the region of £200k and the write off of software costs to do with the DELTA project of £150k. Additionally last year's result reflected a difficult start with a very tight control on expenditure and there was an element of catch up in the current year. The underlying performance of the institution remains strong and the good surplus for the year before pension adjustments results from a key focus on the retention of students by enhancing the student experience and a tight control on costs.

5.2 Statement of Financial Position

The following table summarises the group statement of financial position for the last three years:

	2018	2017	2016
Financial Summary	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed Assets	91,942	88,016	89,218
Investments	640	604	545
Cash	11,290	9,587	5,195
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	3,939	3,204	(2,036)
Loans, Finance Lease and Deferred Grants	(31,076)	(29,784)	(30,270)
Pension Liabilities	(15,230)	(16,984)	(14,221)
Total Net Assets	50,215	45,056	43,236
Deferred Capital Grants	-	-	-
Restricted reserves	625	611	539
Revenue Reserves	38,848	35,076	30,181
Pension Reserve	(15,230)	(16,984)	(14,221)
Revaluation Reserve	25,972	26,353	26,737
Total Reserves	50,215	45,056	43,236

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

5.2 Statement of Financial Position (continued)

Fixed Assets

In spite of annual depreciation charges of approximately £5m over the last three years, the level of fixed assets is maintained by the constant investment in equipment and the extension and refurbishment of buildings. The increase in fixed assets of £4m in the past year is due to the completion of the acquisition of Plot Q on the achievement of satisfactory planning permissions.

Cash and Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)

The increase in cash in the last year is as a result of the strong generation of operating cash and with a reduced level of investment in buildings over the past couple of years. The University is increasing its cash balances in preparation for the development of the newly acquired Plot Q. This in turn has had a helpful impact on Net Current Assets which has remained positive after being negative for a number of years.

Loans, Finance Lease and Deferred Grants

The application of FRS102 has meant that deferred grants are reflected in long term creditors rather than under Total Funds. The increase in this balance is due to the final drawdown of £2m on available £7m loan facility as reduced by loan repayments and a slight reduction in the finance lease liability. The rate of reduction of the finance lease is affected by the rate of inflation which determines the annual lease payments.

Pension Liabilities/Reserves

There has been a welcome decrease of almost £1.8m of the FRS102 calculated Pension Liability as a result of the improved return on scheme assets and the increase in long term gilt/bond rates thus generating a higher discount rate for the estimation of liabilities. The past service liability duration for the scheme is 25 years reflecting the younger age profile of its members.

Total Reserves

Total Reserves over the period have grown steadily in spite of the volatility of the FRS102 pension adjustments.

Cash flow

Net cash inflow from operating activities was £9.7m which is similar to that of last year and is an indicator of the University's strength in providing finance to invest for the future thus enhancing the student experience by means of the facilities it provides.

5.3 Key Performance Indicators

AUB developed Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to facilitate the oversight of all its business affairs at a strategic level by the Board of Governors. These were updated to reflect the new Strategic Plan objectives. However the critical financial KPIs monitored in the past year were:

KPI	Description	Target/ Benchmark	Actual
Profitability	Surplus as %age of total income	10.5%	3.2%
Staff Costs	Staff costs as a %age of income	50% max	43.3%
Liquidity	Liquid assets as days of total expenditure	60 days min	112 days
Borrowings	Borrowings (excluding finance lease creditor) as a %age of income	40% max	22.5%
Annual Service Cost	Annual debt servicing cost as %age of total prior year income (excluding finance lease creditor)	4% max	1.7%

Whilst the above KPIs were mostly satisfactory for the monitoring of performance previously it is clear that the target benchmarks need to be reviewed in light of the new accounting standard FRS102 which accounts differently than when the KPIs were originally established. They will be revised to take account of FRS102 and the significant investment in land and buildings which has resulted in higher depreciation charges and other changes consequent on the development of the new Strategic Plan.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)
5.3 Key Performance Indicators (continued)

Financial KPIs, although important, represent only one aspect of the University's business. Other measures of the University's health is the excellent quality assessments of its academic offer, the employment level of students once graduated, the number of student and staff winners in external competitions and the quality of the collaborations it undertakes. However student satisfaction as measured by the National Student Survey is below national benchmark of all universities at 81% which means that there is an increased focus on meeting students' expectations with more investment in academic staff and an improvement in systems to ensure course management and feedback is enhanced.

5.4 A Financial Strategy for Sustainability

The financial strategy is one of the supporting strategies to the University's Strategic Plan. It has an enabling role to ensure that the appropriate resources are provided to support the University's strategic objectives and academic development.

The main features of the University's financial strategy are:

- operating surpluses in all years sufficient to meet loan capital repayments;
- continued efficient delivery in faculties, support and overhead areas;
- investment of cash reserves accumulated over previous years, with cash balances being maintained at an ample level but not by means of borrowing additional funds;
- use of loan funding for major estates developments;
- maintaining investment in infrastructure and resources, including the estate to ensure efficient utilisation and fitness for purpose in all areas; and
- development of commercial income streams in terms of fully funded courses such as summer and bespoke courses; and the letting of the estate during quiet periods.

5.5 Treasury Management

Treasury management encompasses the management of the University's cash flows, banking, money and capital market transactions and the effective control of the risks associated with those activities. The policy of the University is to safeguard its assets whilst at the same time aiming to achieve the best possible return on its investments. The overriding principle however must be to minimise risk rather than maximise returns.

The University's financial strategy sets out the minimum liquidity levels needed to ensure that financial and operational control is maintained. A rolling five year forecast is prepared each year, which incorporates a review of capital expenditure, cash generation and any future borrowings that may be required. Investment returns over the past year increased slightly as the University's cash balances rose however the continuing low interest rates meant that investment returns were not significant.

5.6 Long Term Borrowing Facility

All of the current University's borrowings are provided by its main banker Lloyds Bank and are a mix of variable and fixed interest term repayment loans. No security other than a negative pledge has been given in respect of these loans. The library building loan had a year-end balance of £0.53m and was re-fixed until July 2022 at which time it will be repaid and at a rate of 1.512%. There is another loan of £0.45m fixed at 5.36% and will be fully repaid by October 2021. The University has a further variable loan at Bank Base Rate plus a margin of 0.28% and repayable over a maximum of 25 years which had a balance of £1.9m outstanding.

In 2015 a further loan facility with Lloyds was agreed for £7m over a ten year period at LIBOR plus a margin of 1.6%. During the year the outstanding £2m was called upon to complete the purchase of Plot Q. In keeping with the University's treasury management policy £3.8m of this loan was fixed at a rate of 2.75% for 5 years and the remaining £3.2m is at a variable rate. The outstanding balance was £6.8m.

The University has complied with all its loan covenants in the past year.

During the year a loan tender exercise was undertaken to secure funding for the development of student accommodation on Plot Q. A Revolving Credit Facility of £20m for a period of 5 years was agreed with HSBC and over a total term of 10 years. The negotiated margin was 1.15% over LIBOR and the non-utilisation rate is 35% of the margin. The negative pledge security arrangements continue to prevail. It is anticipated that the first drawdown of the loan will be in March 2019 once the construction of the halls gets under way.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

5.7 Outlook

The University believes that it is well placed to meet the challenges ahead as it operates in a niche area of provision with demand for the courses that it offers. With its Strategic Plan there is a clear focus on the University's mission to be 'The leading professional arts university dedicated to creative education and career success' and the supporting aims and objectives to realise this ambition. It continues to be forward looking as evidenced by the acquisition of land in Wallisdown facilitating the expansion of the campus.

All supporting strategies are continually updated to align with the Strategic Plan and in accordance with the Strategy Map which articulates the University's objectives. The world renowned architectural practice Foster + Partners, of which Norman Foster is an AUB honorary fellow, has been commissioned to develop an estates Master Plan which will take into account Plot Q and its incorporation into the campus. This exercise will take into account the future demand from the creative industries for professionally qualified graduates in a variety of artistic disciplines and how Arts University Bournemouth can service this by means of flexible accommodation and the adoption of modern technologies.

As a result of the Government's HE White Paper 'Students at the Heart of the System' there will be more competition for students in a rather imperfect market. This has progressed further with the creation of the Office for Students which is charged with championing the students cause and providing ever greater value for money. The inability to increase fees for Home & EU students has intensified the competition between Higher Education Providers, including those in the private sector so much so that increasingly it is the student who is making the choice of where they wish to go. This is also compounded by the reduction in the number of 18 year olds in the education system which will reach a low point in 2020 before rising again. A further threat is the change in the school curriculum which effectively discourages schools from providing art, design and performance subjects at sixth form.

Government policy continues to develop the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) and whilst the University has been successful in achieving the TEF Gold award in the first round it is mindful of the further developments of TEF which will be at individual subject level. In response the University is placing an increased emphasis on the teaching qualifications of staff, staff research outputs, the digital learning environment provided for students and a more robust staff performance management system.

The referendum vote to exit the European Union has created great uncertainty, which is not diminishing despite the increasing proximity of the date of departure 29th March 2019, and the University continues to have concerns about its ability to recruit EU students in the future, the retention of staff who are EU citizens and the impact on particular funding streams. In addition the climate generated by the Brexit debate has given the impression to international students that they are not welcome. UK higher education will have to work hard to counter these negative views.

There is increased analysis of the extent to which the student loan book is being repaid and whether future loans should be determined on the basis of the employability of students undertaking particular courses. This could be potentially detrimental to specialist arts & design institutions like the University because their graduates are often self-employed and take time to establish their businesses, prove their level of income and hence ability to repay the student loan. To counter this threat the University is investing more in employability initiatives for its students, encouraging placement opportunities and engage students in an increasing number of knowledge exchange activities.

At a more local level students have difficulty in finding term time accommodation due to changes in local government policy to reduce houses of multiple occupancy. The shortage of student accommodation has the potential to impact recruitment. It is a priority for the University to source additional accommodation by taking advantage of the current building boom in Bournemouth of student halls developments on behalf of pension investments. In addition it is working hard to provide a consistent experience for students across its entire accommodation offer.

The University will continue to seek opportunity in the new challenging marketplace and seek advantage by using the same skills that resulted in its significant growth over the past ten years. The academic year has been recalibrated to create four distinct terms commencing in July which ensures that there is increased emphasis on the development, promotion and staffing of full cost and bespoke courses. This provides the opportunity to utilise the campus during the quieter periods of the year and in the evening whilst at the same time growing an increasingly important alternative income stream.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)
5.8 Risks and Uncertainties

The key risks facing the Arts University Bournemouth are:

- *HE numbers – Home & EU:* - The growth in student numbers has been moderated within the University forecasts reflecting an increasingly competitive market and the falling demographic. There is uncertainty over the attractiveness of UK Higher Education to EU students following the UK departure from the European Union.. The number of applications received per place has fallen to 5 and as a consequence the University is reviewing its course portfolio in order to offer new courses to provide greater appeal.
Recruitment would need to fall by over 14% in 2019-20 for AUB to just breakeven before allowing for any cost reductions that would be made.
- *HE retention:* - The retention of students on their courses can have a huge impact on the income earned and fortunately this is a positive for the University as recruitment interviews establish a strong bond with the students. For the purposes of its forecasts the retention rate has been estimated at 97.5%. Should the retention rate fall to 95% the surplus would reduce by £1.3m in 2019-20.
- *Overseas growth:* - It is anticipated that the student numbers here will grow from a current 382 to 440 over the planning period as AUB builds steadily on the relationships that have been established in Japan, India and Korea. Work is in hand to take advantage of the European market post Brexit.
- *Alternative income:* - An area where AUB anticipates growth is in Summer and Bespoke courses that use its facilities during quiet times. These are expected to increase by 20% over the planning period however the margin is relatively low when compared to mainstream HE provision. In addition summer rental income will increase by 25% due to more campus facilities.
- *Salary costs:* - These account for 42% of income and this percentage will rise over the planning period as a result of the appointment of established academic staff in place of visiting tutors. A 1% increase in pay inflation will have an adverse impact of more than £170k on the bottom line.
- *Inflation:* - High inflation may be a feature of the future as the government attempts to bring borrowings under control. Inflation of 5% on non-pay costs and a possible 5% increase in salaries to try and keep pace would result in an eradication of the surplus by 2020-21 if income were to remain the same and no other action was taken.
- *Capital expenditure:* - AUB has future plans for capital expenditure of almost £53m. This work is essential to maintain the Estate in order to attract students in an increasingly competitive market and provide student halls. Estimates are based on professional advice but actual costs are only confirmed once fixed price tenders are received.
- *Interest rates:* - With current borrowings AUB is vulnerable to changes in interest rates. Of the total potential loan portfolio of a maximum of £29m, £5m is at fixed rates. The forecast assumes interest rates will increase to 2.5% base rate from 2019-20. Were interest rates to increase by 1% AUB would incur an additional £176k charge per annum. Over 50% of current borrowings are fixed at favourable rates and Governors will consider the appropriate proportion of any future borrowings to be fixed.
- *Pensions:* - Total funds have been reduced by £15m due to the recognition of the deficit on the local government pension scheme in Dorset. Fortunately AUB has sufficient reserves to accommodate this deficit. The latest triennial valuation as at March 2016 confirmed an employer rate of 13% which is below the 14.1% rate currently being paid. The risk associated with the scheme was reviewed during the year and assurances were received from Dorset County Council that their valuation assumptions will not change in the foreseeable future. The second pension scheme Teachers Pension Scheme is unfunded and notification has been received that the current contribution rate of 16.48% will increase to 23.68% in September 2019.

The Governors and university management team are optimistic for the future of the institution and are confident of rising to the challenges ahead in achieving the University's Strategic Plan.

By order of the Board of Governors

Michael Gibson

Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors

23 November 2018

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Arts University Bournemouth (AUB) is a higher education corporation, established under the Education Reform Act 1988. As an institution it has existed since 1887, gaining taught degree awarding powers in 2008 and formally adopting the name Arts University Bournemouth in December 2012.

The Board of Governors has overall responsibility for the mission and educational character of the Arts University Bournemouth. It sets strategic direction, and is collectively accountable for institutional activities. The Board has adopted the voluntary HE Code of Governance issued by the Committee of University Chairs (CUC), which constitutes definitive guidance on governance within Higher Education; and adheres to the Core Values of Higher Education Governance set out in the Code. It recognises the seven Primary Elements of Higher Education Governance, and incorporates these within its work.

The Board is cognisant of the Terms and conditions of funding set down by the Office for Students (OfS) as the lead regulator for higher education institutions and of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) for research funding.

The Instrument and Articles of Government (IAG) form the legal basis for the establishment of the University. In addition, the Board has established a set of Standing Orders to govern its operations; and a Scheme of Delegation which articulates the authority and decision-making processes of the University.

The Board has its own Statement of Primary Responsibilities that is based on the model statement contained in the CUC Code and adapted to reflect the powers and responsibilities of the Board derived from its Instrument and Articles. The Board has adopted the Nolan Principles of standards in public life, and is committed to the delivery of high quality higher education which commands public confidence and protects the reputation of the UK system.

Together, the University's governance arrangements are designed to:

- Set out the responsibilities and powers of the Board, its Committees and the Academic Board
- Set out the responsibilities and powers of the Principal and Vice-Chancellor (and other members of the University Management Team)
- Contribute to openness, transparency and accountability in governance
- Assist in the efficient discharge of business and the overall efficiency of decision-making.

At the start of each academic year, members of the Board are asked to acknowledge that they have read and will adhere to the principles set out in its governing documents.

Board operation

In accordance with the Instrument and Articles of Government, the Board has confirmed an overall membership of 17. This comprises 11 independent members; 3 co-opted members; the Principal and Vice-Chancellor; one student representative and an AUB academic staff representative. One of the co-options is a member of the AUB professional services staff and another has extensive experience in the delivery of higher education.

The membership of the Board 2017-18 is given on page 1 of these financial statements along with the individual membership of Committees as at the date of signature of the accounts.

The Board met on five occasions during the year, one of which was a joint meeting with members of the University Executive.

During 2016-17, a Governing Body Effectiveness Review was undertaken. The review resulted in recommendations to streamline processes and enhance the efficient operation of the Board. This included that the Estates Committee was dissolved and its work merged with the Finance & Resources Committee; and improved use of the Governors' Reading Room, a secure part of the University's intranet to which Governors have access and where minutes and occasional papers are made available for review. Feedback on this first year of operation has been very positive.

The Board has established five Committees to oversee specific aspects of its business. The formal terms of reference and constitution of each Committee is included within the Standing Orders. Members of the University Executive attend Committees at the request of the respective Chairs.

During 2017-18, the Committees were as follows:

Audit & Risk Committee

This Committee provides assurance to the Board that the University operates an effective system of internal control for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness. The Committee oversees the internal audit programme and meets with both the internal and external auditors. Risk management and internal control are discussed in greater detail below.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (continued)
Finance & Resources Committee

The Finance & Resources Committee advises the Board on strategic financial planning and monitors the University's financial performance. The Committee receives detailed annual capital and revenue budgets, budget updates and longer term financial forecasts on behalf of the Board and makes recommendations to the Board for approval. From 2017-18 it also took responsibility for oversight of estates planning on behalf of the Board, and established a Project Management Board to provide sound governance for a major capital investment (the development of new halls of residence).

Human Resources Committee

This Committee, formerly known as the Human Resources & Remuneration Committee, advises the Board on strategic Human Resource planning, ensures that pay and conditions of employment are properly determined and implemented and monitors compliance with relevant legislation on its behalf. During the year, the Board agreed that the Committee should be retitled to avoid any confusion about its role.

Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee, formerly the Senior Staff Remuneration Committee, determines the remuneration to be awarded to the University's senior officers including the Principal and Vice-Chancellor. It has accepted the CUC Remuneration Code and prepared the University's first Remuneration Report in Summer 2018. The Committee refers to comparative information when making its decisions, which are clearly documented and follow a defined process. During the year, the Board agreed that the Committee should be retitled to avoid any confusion about its role.

Search & Governance Committee

This Committee is responsible for ensuring that transparent and appropriate procedures are in place to fill vacancies and to select suitable candidates for membership of the Board. This Committee advises the Board on the operation and effective discharge of the University's responsibilities for corporate governance and the appropriate delegation of the Board's authority. During 2017-18 the Committee approved updated governance documentation and recommended this to the Board.

The Board, through regular reviews of its own performance, is confident that it meets the expectations of good governance in higher education. This view was confirmed during 2017-18 through an Office for Students Assurance Review, which found that the OfS was *"able to place reliance on the accountability information"* and that *"the University's most recent accountability returns were underpinned by appropriate and mainly effective oversight and approval processes. Specifically, and because they were new quality requirements for December 2016, we note that the University provided quality-related assurances and an annual efficiency return on value for money in December 2017"*.

Risk Management and Internal Control

The Board of Governors is ultimately responsible for the University's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. The primary aim of the process is to support delivery of policies, aims and objectives, whilst safeguarding the public and other funds and assets for which it is responsible and ensuring compliance with relevant legal and statutory requirements.

The key elements of the University's system of internal control are as follows:

- clear definitions of the responsibilities of, and the authority delegated to those with management responsibility;
- regular reviews of key performance indicators and financial results involving variance analysis reporting and updates of forecast out-turns;
- clearly defined and formalised requirements for approval and control of expenditure, with investment decisions involving capital or revenue expenditure being subject to formal detailed appraisal and review according to levels set by the Board as contained within the Financial Regulations;
- the maintenance of a risk register which highlights the key risks facing the University in achieving its objectives;
- oversight of the risk management process by the Audit & Risk Committee;
- regular reports to the Audit & Risk Committee from the internal auditor on the adequacy and effectiveness of the University's system of internal control together with recommendations for improvement; and
- an annual report to the Board from the Audit & Risk Committee on its work.

The University used BDO LLP to provide internal audit services for the past financial year, following an open tender process. The firm operates to standards defined in the Audit Code of Practice. The University agrees a schedule of internal audit activity with BDO LLP, which is formally approved by Audit & Risk Committee. Each audit provides opinions on the adequacy and effectiveness of the institution's system of internal control together with recommendations for improvement. The internal auditor submits reports, including a management response, in respect of each audit; these reports are considered by the Committee. The internal auditor also prepares the Internal Audit Annual Report which is reviewed in detail by the Audit & Risk Committee and informs the Annual Report of the Committee to the Corporation.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (continued)

The University Executive is responsible for preparing and overseeing the University's risk register, which is also approved by Academic Board. The risk register includes the performance indicators in support of the University's strategy and areas of legal or statutory compliance, and employs a RAG system to flag those risks which require specific action in mitigation. It also notes potential early warning mechanisms against each risk where appropriate.

The risk management process is not designed to eliminate all risk, but to manage and mitigate the key risks to business objectives. As such, it can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. The risk register is considered by the Audit & Risk Committee on an annual basis, and the Committee reports to the Board on its satisfaction with the risk process as part of its Annual Report.

The Board is confident that there is an ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the University's significant risks, that it has been in place for the year ended 31 July 2018 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts, that it is regularly reviewed by the Board and that it accords with the internal control requirements of the Code of Governance.

Michael Gibson
Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors

Professor Stuart Bartholomew CBE
Principal and Vice-Chancellor

23 November 2018

STATEMENT OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Board of Governors is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Office for Students' Terms and conditions of funding for higher education institutions and Research England's Terms and conditions of Research England grant and applicable law and regulations.

The Board is required to prepare group and parent University financial statements in accordance with UK accounting standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*. The terms and conditions of funding further require the financial statements to be prepared in accordance with the 2015 Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting for Further and Higher Education, in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts Direction issued by the Office for Students. The Board of Governors is required to prepare financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and parent University and of their income and expenditure, gains and losses and changes in reserves for that period.

In preparing each of the group and parent University financial statements, the Board of Governors is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- assess the group and parent University's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and
- use the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the group or the parent University or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board of Governors is responsible for keeping proper accounts and proper records in relation to the accounts. It is responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to it to safeguard the assets of the group and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Board of Governors is also responsible for ensuring that:

- funds from whatever source administered by the Group or the University for specific purposes have been properly applied to those purposes and managed in accordance with relevant legislation;
- funds provided by the Office for Students and Research England have been applied in accordance with the terms and conditions attached to them;
- funds provided by HEFCE have been applied in accordance with the Memorandum of Assurance and Accountability and any other terms and conditions attached to them;
- ensuring that there are appropriate financial and management controls in place to safeguard public funds and funds from other sources; and
- securing the economical, efficient and effective management of the university's resources and expenditure.

The Board of Governors is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the University's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Michael Gibson

Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors

23 November 2018

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Arts University Bournemouth ("the University") for the year ended 31 July 2018 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure, Consolidated Statement of Changes in Reserves, Balance Sheet, Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and related notes, including the statement of accounting policies.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and the University's affairs as at 31 July 2018, and of the Group's and the University's income and expenditure, gains and losses and changes in reserves, and of the Group's cash flows, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with UK accounting standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*, and with the 2015 *Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting for Further and Higher Education*; and
- meet the requirements of the Accounts Direction dated 19 June 2018 issued by the Office for Students.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities are described below. We have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities under, and are independent of the group in accordance with, UK ethical requirements including the FRC Ethical Standard. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is a sufficient and appropriate basis for our opinion.

Going concern

We are required to report to you if we have concluded that the use of the going concern basis of accounting is inappropriate or there is an undisclosed material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt over the use of that basis for a period of at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. We have nothing to report in these respects.

Other information

The Board of Governors is responsible for the other information, which comprises the Strategic Review and the Corporate Governance Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether, based on our financial statements audit work, the information therein is materially misstated or inconsistent with the financial statements or our audit knowledge. Based solely on that work, we have not identified material misstatements in the other information.

Board of Governors responsibilities

As explained more fully in their statement set out on page 20, the Board of Governors is responsible for: the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view; such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; assessing the group and parent University's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it either intends to liquidate the group or the parent University or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue our opinion in an auditor's report. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

A fuller description of our responsibilities is provided on the FRC's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH
(continued)**

REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

We are required to report on the following matters under the Office for Students and Research England Audit Codes of Practice issued under the Further and Higher Education Act 1992.

In our opinion, in all material respects:

- funds from whatever source administered by the Group or the University for specific purposes have been properly applied to those purposes and managed in accordance with relevant legislation;
- income has been applied in accordance with the University's Statutes (or articles of government for post 1992 institutions);
- funds provided by the Office for Students and Research England have been applied in accordance with these conditions and the terms and conditions attached to them; and
- funds provided by HEFCE have been applied in accordance with the Memorandum of Assurance and Accountability and any other terms and conditions attached to them.

THE PURPOSE OF OUR AUDIT WORK AND TO WHOM WE OWE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

This report is made solely to the Board of Governors, in accordance with paragraph 13(2) of the University's Articles of Government and section 124B of the Education Reform Act 1988. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Board of Governors those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the University and the Board of Governors for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Victoria Sewell
for and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Tollgate
Chandler's Ford
Hampshire
SO53 3TG

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

	Notes	Year Ended 31 July 2018		Year Ended 31 July 2017	
		Consolidated £'000	University £'000	Consolidated £'000	University £'000
Income					
Tuition fees and education contracts	1	32,857	32,857	31,340	31,533
Funding body grants	2	2,922	2,922	3,427	3,427
Other income	3	7,283	7,207	5,676	5,443
Investment income	4	59	45	37	22
Donations and endowments	5	26	-	53	-
Total income		<u>43,147</u>	<u>43,031</u>	<u>40,533</u>	<u>40,425</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs	6	18,663	18,663	16,740	16,740
Fundamental restructuring costs	9	-	-	57	57
Other operating expenses	7	16,283	16,344	13,987	14,032
Depreciation	11	5,099	4,930	4,882	4,714
Interest and other finance costs	8	1,708	1,708	1,586	1,586
Total expenditure	9	<u>41,753</u>	<u>41,645</u>	<u>37,252</u>	<u>37,129</u>
Surplus before other gains		1,394	1,386	3,281	3,296
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	-	-	-
Gain on investments	13	22	-	44	-
Surplus before tax		<u>1,416</u>	<u>1,386</u>	<u>3,325</u>	<u>3,296</u>
Taxation	10	(22)	-	(20)	-
Surplus for the year		<u>1,394</u>	<u>1,386</u>	<u>3,305</u>	<u>3,296</u>
Actuarial surplus/(loss) in respect of pension schemes	24	3,765	3,765	(1,485)	(1,485)
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u><u>5,159</u></u>	<u><u>5,151</u></u>	<u><u>1,820</u></u>	<u><u>1,811</u></u>
Represented by:					
Endowment comprehensive income for the year		14	-	72	-
Unrestricted comprehensive income for the year		5,526	5,494	2,131	2,156
Revaluation reserve comprehensive (expenditure) for the year		(381)	(343)	(383)	(345)
		<u><u>5,159</u></u>	<u><u>5,151</u></u>	<u><u>1,820</u></u>	<u><u>1,811</u></u>

All items of income and expenditure relate to continuing activities

**CONSOLIDATED AND UNIVERSITY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

Consolidated	Income and expenditure account		Revaluation reserve	Total
	Endowment £'000	Unrestricted £'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 1 August 2016	539	15,961	26,736	43,236
Surplus from the I&E statement	72	3,233	-	3,305
Other comprehensive expenditure	-	(1,485)	-	(1,485)
Transfers between revaluation and I&E reserve	-	383	(383)	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	72	2,131	(383)	1,820
Balance at 1 August 2017	611	18,092	26,353	45,056
Surplus/(deficit) from the I&E statement	14	1,380	-	1,394
Other comprehensive expenditure	-	3,765	-	3,765
Transfers between revaluation and I&E reserve	-	381	(381)	-
Total comprehensive expenditure for the year	14	5,526	(381)	5,159
Balance at 31 July 2018	625	23,618	25,972	50,215

University	Income and expenditure account		Revaluation reserve	Total
	Endowment £'000	Unrestricted £'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 1 August 2016	-	16,841	25,817	42,658
Surplus from the I&E statement	-	3,296	-	3,296
Other comprehensive expenditure	-	(1,485)	-	(1,485)
Transfers between revaluation and I&E reserve	-	345	(345)	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	2,156	(345)	1,811
Balance at 1 August 2017	-	18,997	25,472	44,469
Surplus from the I&E statement	-	1,386	-	1,386
Other comprehensive expenditure	-	3,765	-	3,765
Transfers between revaluation and I&E reserve	-	343	(343)	-
Total comprehensive expenditure for the year	-	5,494	(343)	5,151
Balance at 31 July 2018	-	24,491	25,129	49,620

**CONSOLIDATED AND UNIVERSITY BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 JULY 2018**

	Notes	As at 31 July 2018		As at 31 July 2017	
		Consolidated £'000	University £'000	Consolidated £'000	University £'000
Non-current assets					
Fixed assets	11	91,942	87,399	88,016	83,304
Investments	13	640	-	604	-
		<u>92,582</u>	<u>87,399</u>	<u>88,620</u>	<u>83,304</u>
Current assets					
Trade and other receivables	14	1,297	4,177	704	3,677
Cash and cash equivalents	19	11,290	11,215	9,587	9,505
		<u>12,587</u>	<u>15,392</u>	<u>10,291</u>	<u>13,182</u>
Less: Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(8,648)	(8,590)	(7,087)	(6,995)
Net current assets		<u>3,939</u>	<u>6,802</u>	<u>3,204</u>	<u>6,187</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>96,521</u>	<u>94,201</u>	<u>91,824</u>	<u>89,491</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16	(31,054)	(29,351)	(29,761)	(28,038)
Provisions					
Pension provisions	17	(15,230)	(15,230)	(16,984)	(16,984)
Other provisions	17	(22)	-	(23)	-
Total net assets		<u><u>50,215</u></u>	<u><u>49,620</u></u>	<u><u>45,056</u></u>	<u><u>44,469</u></u>
Restricted Reserves					
Income and expenditure reserve - endowment reserve	18	625	-	611	-
Unrestricted Reserves					
Income and expenditure reserve - unrestricted:					
Income and expenditure account		38,848	39,721	35,076	35,981
Pension reserve		(15,230)	(15,230)	(16,984)	(16,984)
		<u>23,618</u>	<u>24,491</u>	<u>18,092</u>	<u>18,997</u>
Revaluation reserve		25,972	25,129	26,353	25,472
Total Reserves		<u><u>50,215</u></u>	<u><u>49,620</u></u>	<u><u>45,056</u></u>	<u><u>44,469</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Governing Body on 23 November 2018 and were signed on its behalf by:

Michael Gibson

Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors

Professor Stuart Bartholomew CBE

Principal and Vice-Chancellor

Mary O'Sullivan

Director of Finance

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

	Notes	Year ended 31 July 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 July 2017 £'000
Cash flow from operating activities			
Surplus for the year		1,394	3,305
Adjustment for non-cash items			
Depreciation	11	5,099	4,882
(Gain) on investments	18	(22)	(44)
(Increase) in debtors	14	(593)	(338)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	15	778	(459)
Difference between pension charges and cash contributions	24	2,011	1,278
(Decrease)/increase in other provisions	17	(1)	20
Adjustment for investing or financing activities			
Investment income	4	(59)	(37)
Interest payable	8	1,246	1,215
Endowment income	5	(26)	(53)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		18	-
Capital grant income		(114)	(95)
Net cash inflow from operating activities		<u>9,731</u>	<u>9,674</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from disposal of fixed assets		-	-
Investment income		45	22
Capital grants received		733	-
Payments made to acquire fixed assets		(8,716)	(3,454)
		<u>(7,938)</u>	<u>(3,432)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid		(212)	(219)
Interest element of finance lease		(1,034)	(996)
Endowment cash received		26	53
New unsecured loans		2,000	-
Repayments of amounts borrowed		(523)	(353)
Capital element of finance lease		(347)	(335)
		<u>(90)</u>	<u>(1,850)</u>
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		<u><u>1,703</u></u>	<u><u>4,392</u></u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		9,587	5,195
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	19	<u><u>11,290</u></u>	<u><u>9,587</u></u>

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting for Further and Higher Education 2015 and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standards (FRS 102). The University is a public benefit entity and therefore has applied the relevant public benefit requirement of FRS 102. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

Basis of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements comprise the University; its wholly owned subsidiaries, AUB Services Ltd and AUB Enterprises Ltd. Intra-group sales and profits are eliminated fully on consolidation.

The University has control of 100% of the Arts University Bournemouth Charitable Foundation, a charitable company limited by guarantee. The Foundation is consolidated by virtue of dominant influence over the operating and financial policies of that company by the University.

The consolidated Financial Statements do not include those of the Arts University Bournemouth Students' Union which is a separate unincorporated association. The University has no financial interest in the Students' Union and has no control or significant influence over its policy decisions.

Income recognition

Income from contracts and other services rendered is recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure to the extent of the completion of the contract or service concerned.

Fee income is stated gross of any expenditure which is not a discount and credited to the Consolidated Statement of Income and Comprehensive Expenditure over the period in which students are studying. Where the amount of the tuition fee is reduced, by a discount for prompt payment, income receivable is shown net of the discount. Bursaries and scholarships are accounted for gross as expenditure and not deducted from income.

Investment income is credited to the statement of income and expenditure on a receivable basis.

Funds the University receives and disburses as paying agent on behalf of a funding body are excluded from the income and expenditure of the University where the University is exposed to minimal risk or enjoys minimal economic benefit related to the transaction.

Grant funding

Government revenue grants including funding council block grant and research grants are recognised in income over the periods in which the University recognises the related costs for which the grant is intended to compensate. Where part of a government grant is deferred it is recognised as deferred income within creditors and allocated between creditors due within one year and due after more than one year as appropriate.

Grants (including research grants) from non-government sources are recognised in income when the University is entitled to the income and performance related conditions have been met. Income received in advance of performance related conditions being met is recognised as deferred income within creditors on the balance sheet and released to income as the conditions are met.

Donations and endowments

Non exchange transactions without performance related conditions are donations and endowments. Donations and endowments with donor imposed restrictions are recognised in income when the University is entitled to the funds. Income is retained within the restricted reserve until such time that it is utilised in line with such restrictions at which point the income is released to general reserves through a reserve transfer.

Donations with no restrictions are recognised in income when the University is entitled to the funds.

Investment income and appreciation of endowments is recorded in income in the year in which it arises and as either restricted or unrestricted income according to the terms or restrictions applied to the individual endowment fund.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)
Capital grants

Government capital grants are recognised in income over the expected useful life of the asset. Other capital grants are recognised in income when the University is entitled to the funds subject to any performance related conditions being met.

Finance leases

Leases in which the University assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the leased asset are classified as finance leases. Leased assets acquired by way of finance lease and the corresponding lease liabilities are initially recognised at an amount equal to the lower of their fair value and the present value of the minimum lease payments at inception of the lease.

Operating leases

Costs in respect of operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Any lease premiums or incentives are spread over the minimum lease term.

Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at deemed cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Certain items of fixed assets that had been revalued to fair value on transition to FRS 102 are measured on the basis of deemed cost, being the revalued amount at the date of that revaluation.

Where parts of fixed assets have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of fixed assets.

a. Freehold land and buildings

Land and buildings are included in the balance sheet at deemed cost to the company. Freehold land is not depreciated as it is considered to have an indefinite useful life. Freehold buildings are depreciated on a straight line basis over their useful economic life as follows:

Structure	– useful economic life as determined by the valuers, the average being 78 years
Fit out	– 10 years
Plant and machinery	– 15 years

Buildings under construction are accounted for at cost, based on the value of architect's certificates and other direct costs incurred to 31 July. They are not depreciated until they are brought into use.

b. Computers, software and other equipment

Computer and other equipment costing less than £1,000 per individual item and software with a useful life of less than 18 months are written off to the income and expenditure account in the year of acquisition. All other purchases are capitalised at cost.

All equipment is depreciated on a straight line basis over its remaining useful life to the group, as follows:

Computer equipment	– 3 years
Other equipment	– 5 to 10 years
Furniture	– 10 years

Intangible Assets

The value of internally generated patents, licences and other similar rights over assets are recognised on the balance sheet by capitalising the costs of registering such rights and amortising over a period of three years.

Heritage assets

The University maintains a collection of heritage assets that have been gifted or acquired over the years. It is not considered practicable to obtain valuations for the collections of artefacts owing to the diverse nature of the assets and the lack of comparable market values. The University does not therefore recognise these assets on its balance sheet.

Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are recognised as expenditure in the period in which they are incurred.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)
Pension schemes

The two principal pension schemes for the University's staff are the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS), both of which are defined benefit schemes.

Defined benefit plans are post-employment benefit plans other than defined contribution plans. Under defined benefit plans, the University's obligation is to provide the agreed benefits to current and former employees, and actuarial risk (that benefits will cost more or less than expected) and investment risk (that returns on assets set aside to fund the benefits will differ from expectations) are borne, in substance, by the University. The Group should recognise a liability for its obligations under defined benefit plans net of plan assets. This net defined benefit liability is measured as the estimated amount of benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods, discounted to determine its present value, less the fair value (at bid price) of plan assets. The calculation is performed by a qualified actuary using the projected unit credit method. Where the calculation results in a net asset, recognition of the asset is limited to the extent to which the University is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan.

The TPS is a multi-employer scheme for which it is not possible to identify the assets and liabilities to University as members due to the mutual nature of the scheme and therefore this scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution retirement benefit scheme.

A defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which the company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts. Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as an expense in the income statement in the periods during which services are rendered by employees.

Employee benefits

Short term employment benefits such as salaries and compensated absences are recognised as an expense in the year in which the employees render service to the University. Any unused benefits are accrued and measured as the additional amount the University expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement.

Taxation

The University is an exempt charity within the meaning of Part 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and as such is a charity within the meaning of Para 1 of Schedule 6 to the Finance Act 2010. Accordingly, the University is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by sections 478-488 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) (formerly enacted in Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (ICTA)) or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes.

All subsidiary companies (with the exception of the Arts University Bournemouth Charitable Foundation, which is a registered charity) are liable to Corporation tax in the same way as any other commercial organisation.

The University receives no similar exemption in respect of Value Added Tax. Irrecoverable VAT on inputs is included in the costs of such inputs. Any irrecoverable VAT allocated to fixed assets is included in their cost.

Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is provided in full on timing differences which result in an obligation at the balance sheet date to pay more tax, or a right to pay less tax, at a future date, at rates expected to apply when they crystallise based on current tax rates and law. Timing differences arise from the inclusion of items of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in financial statements. Deferred tax is not provided on timing differences arising from the revaluation of fixed assets where there is no commitment to sell the asset. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is regarded as more likely than not that they will be recovered. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Foreign currency

The functional currency of the group is Sterling. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to the respective functional currency of Group entities at the foreign exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are translated to the functional currency at the foreign exchange rate ruling at that date. Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognised in Surplus or Deficit. Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are stated at fair value are retranslated to the functional currency at foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates the fair value was determined.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash includes cash in hand, deposits repayable on demand and overdrafts. Deposits are repayable on demand if they are in practice available within 24 hours without penalty.

Cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

Reserves

Reserves are classified as restricted or unrestricted. Restricted endowment reserves include balances which, through endowment to the University, are held as a permanently restricted fund which the University must hold in perpetuity.

Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets

Provisions are recognised in the financial statements when:

- (a) the University has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event;
- (b) it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and
- (c) a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects risks specific to the liability.

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the University a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the University. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the University a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the University.

Contingent assets and liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but are disclosed in the notes.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

	Year Ended 31 July 2018		Year Ended 31 July 2017	
	Consolidated £'000	University £'000	Consolidated £'000	University £'000
1 Tuition fees and education contracts				
Higher education				
UK and EU students	26,915	26,915	25,341	25,341
Non EU students	4,747	4,747	4,215	4,215
Further education				
UK and EU students	965	965	1,488	1,681
Non EU students	230	230	296	296
	<u>32,857</u>	<u>32,857</u>	<u>31,340</u>	<u>31,533</u>
2 Funding body grants				
Recurrent grants				
Higher Education Funding Council	1,439	1,439	1,769	1,769
Skills Funding Agency	1,095	1,095	1,403	1,403
Specific grants				
Higher Education Funding Council	288	288	167	167
Skills Funding Agency	-	-	-	-
Capital grants				
Higher Education Funding Council	86	86	70	70
Skills Funding Agency	7	7	6	6
Access funding				
Skills Funding Agency	7	7	12	12
	<u>2,922</u>	<u>2,922</u>	<u>3,427</u>	<u>3,427</u>
3 Other income				
Residences, catering and conferences	5,156	5,156	4,032	4,032
Other services rendered	760	698	548	292
Other income	1,346	1,353	1,077	1,119
Other capital grants	21	-	19	-
	<u>7,283</u>	<u>7,207</u>	<u>5,676</u>	<u>5,443</u>
4 Investment income				
Investment income on endowments	14	-	15	-
Other investment income	45	45	22	22
	<u>59</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>22</u>
5 Donations and endowments				
Unrestricted donations	26	-	53	-
	<u>26</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>-</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

	Year Ended 31 July 2018		Year Ended 31 July 2017	
	Consolidated	University	Consolidated	University
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
6 Staff costs				
Salaries	13,781	13,781	12,818	12,818
Social security costs	1,381	1,381	1,247	1,247
Other pension costs: Local Government Pension Scheme	2,514	2,514	1,751	1,751
Teachers' Pension Scheme	987	987	924	924
	<u>18,663</u>	<u>18,663</u>	<u>16,740</u>	<u>16,740</u>

	£	£
Emoluments of the Vice-Chancellor:		
Salary	191,243	188,046
Salary in lieu of pension contributions	27,537	27,077
Pension costs	-	-
Benefits	6,193	4,760
	<u>224,973</u>	<u>219,883</u>

The Vice-Chancellor takes responsibility for his own life assurance and pension arrangements. The pay ratio of the Vice Chancellor's salary and total remuneration to the median figures for staff are 7.01 and 7.39 respectively.

The Vice Chancellor's salary and total remuneration is determined by the Remuneration Committee which is comprised totally of independent members of the Board of Governors having reviewed salary surveys and the rates being paid at similar institutions. The Board is content with its approach to achieving value for money in terms of Vice Chancellor pay.

	No.	No.
Basic Salary of other higher paid staff, excluding employer's pension contributions:		
£125,000 to £129,999	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

	£'000	£'000
Emoluments of key management personnel:		
Salary and benefits	836	871
Pension costs	74	90
	<u>910</u>	<u>961</u>

Key management personnel consist of the University's Management Team.

	£'000	£'000
Key management personnel compensation:		
Compensation payable recorded within staff costs	-	48
	<u>-</u>	<u>48</u>

	No.	No.
Average staff numbers by major category :		
Teaching departments	233	215
Teaching support services	11	11
Library	13	12
Other support services	25	23
Administration and central services	94	90
General education	4	3
Income generating activities	12	10
	<u>392</u>	<u>364</u>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

	Year Ended 31 July 2018		Year Ended 31 July 2017	
	Consolidated £'000	University £'000	Consolidated £'000	University £'000
7 Other operating expenses				
Teaching departments	3,182	3,182	2,808	2,808
Teaching support services	995	993	924	922
Other support services	297	297	265	265
Administration and central services	3,667	3,851	2,744	2,955
General education expenditure	663	663	584	584
Premises costs	2,990	2,877	2,852	2,715
Planned maintenance	498	498	881	881
Grants to Student Union	94	94	136	136
Other income generating activities	4	1	60	54
External auditor's remuneration - Audit fees	25	20	25	20
External auditor's remuneration - Other fees	11	11	26	11
Internal auditor's remuneration - Audit fees	33	33	22	22
Operating lease rentals plant/machinery	52	52	73	73
Operating lease rentals land and buildings	1,072	1,072	995	995
Catering and residencies	2,700	2,700	1,592	1,591
	16,283	16,344	13,987	14,032

Reimbursements to governors and trustees for the expenditure incurred in attending Board meetings amounted to £8,490 (2017: £5,698), of which there were no outstanding amounts. No governor received any remuneration from the group in the performance of their role as trustee, other than the Vice-Chancellor whose remuneration is detailed in Note 6.

8 Interest and other finance costs

Loan interest	212	212	219	219
Finance lease interest	1,034	1,034	996	996
Net charge on pension scheme	462	462	371	371
	1,708	1,708	1,586	1,586

9 Analysis of total expenditure by activity

Academic and related expenditure	18,109	18,107	16,712	16,710
Administration and central services	9,889	10,071	7,866	8,059
Premises	8,236	7,954	7,877	7,572
Residences, catering and conferences	4,805	4,805	3,620	3,620
Other operating expenses	714	708	1,177	1,168
	41,753	41,645	37,252	37,129

Other operating expenses include:

External auditors fees in respect of audit services	25	25
External auditors fees in respect of non-audit services	11	26
Operating lease rentals:		
Land and buildings	1,072	995
Other	52	73
Fundamental restructuring costs	-	57

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

	Year Ended 31 July 2018		Year Ended 31 July 2017	
	Consolidated £'000	University £'000	Consolidated £'000	University £'000
10 Taxation				
Recognised in the statement of comprehensive income				
Current tax				
Current tax expense	22	-	-	-
Adjustment in respect of previous years	-	-	-	-
Current tax expense	<u>22</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred tax				
Origination and reversal of timing differences	-	-	20	-
Recognition of previously unrecognised tax losses	-	-	-	-
Deferred tax expense	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>-</u>
Total tax expense	<u>22</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>-</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

11 Fixed Assets	Land and Buildings	Assets under Construction	Computer Equipment	Furniture and Equipment	Total
Consolidated	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or valuation					
At 1 August 2017	91,118	2,250	6,164	8,558	108,090
Additions	4,267	2,570	840	1,366	9,043
Transfers	2,107	(2,176)	69	-	-
Disposals	-	-	(345)	(242)	(587)
At 31 July 2018	97,492	2,644	6,728	9,682	116,546
Depreciation					
At 1 August 2017	9,218	-	4,739	6,117	20,074
Charge for the year	3,499	-	857	743	5,099
Disposals	-	-	(345)	(224)	(569)
At 31 July 2018	12,717	-	5,251	6,636	24,604
Net book value					
At 31 July 2018	84,775	2,644	1,477	3,046	91,942
At 31 July 2017	81,900	2,250	1,425	2,441	88,016
University					
Cost or valuation					
At 1 August 2017	85,669	2,250	5,497	8,252	101,668
Additions	4,267	2,570	840	1,366	9,043
Transfers	2,107	(2,176)	69	-	-
Disposals	-	-	(345)	(242)	(587)
At 31 July 2018	92,043	2,644	6,061	9,376	110,124
Depreciation					
At 1 August 2017	8,493	-	4,057	5,814	18,364
Charge for the year	3,326	-	855	749	4,930
Disposals	-	-	(345)	(224)	(569)
At 31 July 2018	11,819	-	4,567	6,339	22,725
Net book value					
At 31 July 2018	80,224	2,644	1,494	3,037	87,399
At 31 July 2017	77,176	2,250	1,440	2,438	83,304

On transition to FRS102 the deemed cost approach was adopted.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

11 Fixed Assets (continued)

A full valuation of the University's land and buildings was carried out on 31 July 2014 by independent valuers Gerald Eve.

Buildings have been acquired with the assistance of capital grants from OfS (formerly HEFCE) which are deemed to be financed from Exchequer funds. Were these assets to be sold in the event of insolvency, the University, as part of its funding conditions with the OfS (formerly HEFCE) may have to surrender the written down value of the capital grants being £1.7m from the sale proceeds.

Included in the net book value of Land and Buildings are assets held under finance leases with a net book value of £14.6m (2017: £15.9m), on which £1.2m of depreciation is charged annually.

12 Heritage Assets

The University holds its heritage assets in two collections:

The Museum of Design in Plastic consists of almost 14,000 items made of plastic and animal horn. There is a continual changing exhibition of a small selection of artefacts in the museum, which is located in the Library building on the University campus. The museum is open to the public and furthermore all the artefacts are digitally archived and are accessible at www.modip.ac.uk. The collection has never been formally valued and, given the wide range of objects, the undertaking of such a valuation is not considered to be practical.

The Gallery receives donations of and acquires artwork in the main from students and staff. This artwork is displayed throughout the University and is regularly rotated from The Gallery archives. The value of the collection is not significant and is thus not recognised in the financial statements.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**
13 Non-Current Investments

Consolidated	Subsidiary	Other	Total
	companies	fixed asset	
	£'000	investments	£'000
At 1 August 2017	-	604	604
Additions to investments at cost	-	14	14
Profit on revaluation	-	22	22
At 31 July 2018	<u>-</u>	<u>640</u>	<u>640</u>

University	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 August 2017	-	-	-
Additions to investments at cost	-	-	-
Profit on revaluation	-	-	-
At 31 July 2018	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Non-current investments have been valued at market value.

Subsidiary undertakings

The University owns 100% of the issued ordinary £1 shares of AUB Services Limited and AUB Enterprises Limited, both companies incorporated in England and Wales.

The University has incorporated the Arts University Bournemouth Charitable Foundation, a company limited by guarantee. The trustees of the company are also members or associates of the Board and they have agreed to pay up to £10 towards costs and liabilities should the company be dissolved. The object of the company is the advancement of education principally within the subject areas of art, design, media and the performing arts. The University endowments have been transferred to this company. The charity had opening reserves of £611k, income and resources for the year of £14k and closing reserves of £625k.

14 Trade and other receivables

	Year ended 31 July 2018		Year ended 31 July 2017	
	Consolidated	University	Consolidated	University
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Due in one year:				
Trade receivables	326	243	197	186
Other receivables	51	51	51	51
Prepayments and accrued income	920	920	456	456
Amounts due from subsidiary companies	-	2,963	-	2,984
	<u>1,297</u>	<u>4,177</u>	<u>704</u>	<u>3,677</u>

The amounts due from subsidiary companies includes a £2.89m intercompany balance with AUB Enterprises Ltd. This amount relates to the costs incurred in refurbishing and extending the company's building.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

	Year ended 31 July 2018		Year ended 31 July 2017	
	Consolidated £'000	University £'000	Consolidated £'000	University £'000
15 Creditors : amounts falling due within one year				
Unsecured loans	749	749	457	457
Obligations under finance leases	386	386	338	338
Trade payables	1,320	1,318	516	499
Social security and other taxation payable	585	562	566	564
Other creditors	578	578	589	589
Accruals and deferred income	4,538	4,525	4,186	4,132
Amounts owed to Funding Councils	276	276	335	335
Deferred capital grants	216	196	100	81
	8,648	8,590	7,087	6,995
16 Creditors : amounts falling due after more than one year				
Deferred capital grants	4,391	2,688	3,888	2,165
Obligations under finance lease	17,678	17,678	18,073	18,073
Unsecured loans	8,985	8,985	7,800	7,800
	31,054	29,351	29,761	28,038
Analysis of secured and unsecured loans:				
Due within one year or on demand (Note 15)	1,351	1,331	895	876
Due between one and two years	1,409	1,389	1,125	1,106
Due between two and five years	3,716	3,658	2,647	2,589
Due in five years or more	25,929	24,304	25,989	24,343
Due after more than one year	31,054	29,351	29,761	28,038
Total secured and unsecured loans	32,405	30,682	30,656	28,914
17 Provisions for liabilities		Defined Benefit		
		Pension Obligations		Total
		(Note 24)	Deferred tax	Other
		£'000	£'000	£'000
Consolidated				
At 1 August 2017		16,984	23	17,007
Utilised in year		(133)	(1)	(134)
Reductions in 2017/18		(1,621)	-	(1,621)
At 31 July 2018		15,230	22	15,252
University				
At 1 August 2017		16,984	-	16,984
Utilised in year		(133)	-	(133)
Reductions in 2017/18		(1,621)	-	(1,621)
At 31 July 2018		15,230	-	15,230

Deferred tax represents timing differences on depreciation charged and capital allowances claimed within the subsidiary AUB Enterprises Limited

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

18 Endowment Reserves

	Restricted permanent endowments £'000	Unrestricted permanent endowments £'000	2018 Total £'000	2017 Total £'000
Balances at 1 August 2017				
Capital	39	572	611	441
Accumulated income	-	-	-	98
	<u>39</u>	<u>572</u>	<u>611</u>	<u>539</u>
New endowments	-	26	26	53
Investment income	1	13	14	15
Expenditure	-	(48)	(48)	(40)
Increase in market value of investments	-	22	22	44
	<u>1</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>72</u>
Total endowment comprehensive (expenditure)/ income for the year	<u>1</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>72</u>
At 31 July 2018	<u><u>40</u></u>	<u><u>585</u></u>	<u><u>625</u></u>	<u><u>611</u></u>
Represented by:				
Capital	39	620	659	538
Accumulated income	1	(35)	(34)	73
	<u>40</u>	<u>585</u>	<u>625</u>	<u>611</u>
Analysis by type of purpose:				
Scholarships and bursaries	22	26	48	42
Prize funds	-	4	4	5
General	18	555	573	564
	<u>40</u>	<u>585</u>	<u>625</u>	<u>611</u>
Analysis by asset and liability:				
Current and non-current asset investments			640	604
Trade receivables			-	1
Cash & cash equivalents			59	45
Current liabilities			(74)	(39)
			<u>625</u>	<u>611</u>

19 Cash and cash equivalents

	At 1st August 2017 £'000	Cash Flows £'000	At 31st July 2018 £'000
Consolidated			
Cash and cash equivalents	9,587	1,703	11,290
	<u>9,587</u>	<u>1,703</u>	<u>11,290</u>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

20 Capital and other commitments

Provision has not been made for the following capital commitments at 31 July 2018:

	31 July 2018		31 July 2017	
	Consolidated £'000	University £'000	Consolidated £'000	University £'000
Commitments contracted for	-	-	557	557
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>557</u>	<u>557</u>

21 Contingent liabilities

The University has given written undertakings to support the subsidiary companies for twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

22 Lease obligations

Total rentals payable under operating leases:

	31 July 2018			31 July 2017	
	Land and Buildings £'000	Plant and Machinery £'000	Other Leases	Total £'000	£'000
Payable during the year	1,205	30	-	1,235	1,263
Future minimum lease payments due:					
Not later than 1 year	1,205	30	-	1,235	1,251
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1,686	30	-	1,716	2,843
Later than 5 years	636	-	-	636	711
Total lease payments due	<u>3,527</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,587</u>	<u>4,805</u>

23 Related Party Transactions

Due to the nature of the University's operations and the composition of the Governing Board, some of whose members are drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is possible that the University may undertake transactions with organisations in which a member of the Governing Board may have an interest. Any such transactions are conducted at arm's length in accordance with the University's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

The following transactions were identified under FRS102:

- payment of a grant for £94k to the Arts University Bournemouth Students' Union the president of which is a Board Governor. In addition a further £116k was spent on staff employed by the University but directed by the Student Union officers; and
- transactions totalling £36k relating to tickets and sponsorship took place with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, a company of which the governor Professor Stuart Bartholomew has been a director during the year. There were no amounts outstanding at the year end.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

24. Pension Schemes

Different categories of staff were eligible to join one of two different schemes:

- Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS)
- Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)

Both schemes are defined-benefit schemes, the assets of which are held in separate trustee administered funds.

The total pension cost for the group was:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Teachers' Pension Scheme	987	924
Local Government Pension Scheme	2,514	1,751
	<u>3,501</u>	<u>2,675</u>

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

Contributions owing at 31 July 2018 were £228,118 (2017: £226,299) and have been included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2010) and, from 1 April 2014, by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in universities and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for lecturers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract provided that they have not opted out of the scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

Not less than every four years the Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2012 and the valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014. The key elements of the valuation and the subsequent consultation are:

- With effect from 1 September 2015 employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay including a 0.08% employer administration charge (formerly 14.1%)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £191,500million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600million giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900million
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2.0% in excess of earnings. The real rate of earnings growth is assumed at 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%

The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4% from September 2015, to be payable during the implementation period until the next valuation as at March 2016, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from April 2019.

Under the definitions set out in the FRS102, the TPS is a multi-employer pension scheme, and as a result contributions to the scheme are accounted for as if the scheme was a defined contribution scheme.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

24. Pension Schemes (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

LGPS is valued every three years by professionally qualified independent actuaries using the projected unit method, the rates of contribution payable being determined by the trustees on the advice of actuaries. In the intervening years, the LGPS actuary reviews the progress of the scheme.

For LGPS, the actuary has indicated that the resources of the scheme are likely, in the normal course of events, to meet the liabilities as they fall due at the level specified by the LGPS regulations. The scheme was most recently valued as at March 2016 and the proportion of members' accrued benefits covered by the actuarial value of the assets was 90%. In spite of the actuary's recommendation of an employer contribution rate of 13% following the payment of a deficit recovery lump sum of £277,000, the rate has been maintained at 14.1% of pensionable salaries. The employees contribute between 5.5 – 12.5%

Under the definitions set out in the FRS102, the LGPS is a multi-employer pension scheme. The scheme actuary is able to separately identify the institution's share of its assets and liabilities at 31 July 2018 and as such this has been reflected in the financial statements of the University.

On 26 October, the High Court handed down a judgment involving the Lloyds Banking Group's defined benefit pension schemes. The judgment concluded the schemes should be amended to equalise pension benefits for men and women in relation to guaranteed minimum pension benefits, "GMP". The Government will need to consider this outcome in conjunction with the Government's recent consultation on GMP indexation in public sector schemes before concluding on any changes required to LGPS schemes.

Assumptions

The financial assumptions used to calculate scheme liabilities under FRS102 are:

	2018	2017
	%	%
Price inflation (CPI)	2.35	2.7
Rate of salary increases	3.85	4.2
Rate of increase of pensions in payment	2.35	2.7
Discount rate	2.7	2.7
Assumed commutation rate	50	50

The most significant non-financial assumption is the assumed level of longevity. The table below shows the life expectancy assumptions used in the accounting assessments based on the life expectancy of male and female members at age 65.

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement at age 65 are:

	2018	2017
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
Males	24.0	23.9
Females	26.1	26.0
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	26.3	26.1
Females	28.4	28.3

	£'000	£'000
Amounts recognised in the statement of comprehensive income		
Service cost	2,478	1,804
Net interest on defined liability	446	358
Administration expenses	16	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Actuarial (surplus)/loss	2,940 (3,765)	2,175 1,485
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total charge	(825)	3,660
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**
24. Pension Schemes (continued)

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Analysis of movement in the present value of the scheme liabilities		
The institution's estimated assets share	21,276	19,015
Present value of the institution's scheme liabilities	(36,506)	(35,999)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Deficit in the scheme – net pension liability	(15,230)	(16,984)
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Analysis of movement in the present value of the scheme liabilities

At beginning of year	35,999	30,367
Current service cost	2,478	1,804
Interest cost	976	784
Change in financial and demographic assumptions	(3,231)	3,446
Employee contributions	417	394
Benefit payments	(133)	(835)
Experience loss on defined benefit obligation	-	39
Curtailments	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At the end of the year	36,506	35,999
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Analysis of movement in the fair value of the scheme assets

At beginning of year	19,015	16,146
Interest on assets	530	426
Return on assets less interest	534	2,053
Administration expenses	(16)	(13)
Other actuarial losses	-	(53)
Employer contributions	929	897
Employee contributions	417	394
Benefit payments	(133)	(835)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At the end of the year	21,276	19,015
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The estimated value of employer contributions for the year ended 31 July 2019 is £962,000.

The institution's share of assets in the scheme and expected rates of return were:

	Fair value	Fair value
	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Equities	11,620	10,483
Gilts	2,665	2,530
Cash	199	511
Other bonds	1,471	2,153
Diversified growth fund	1,273	826
Property	2,158	1,673
Infrastructure	905	836
Hedge fund	985	-
Multi Asset Credit	-	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	21,276	19,015
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The actual return on scheme assets was £1,064,000 (2017: £2,479,000).