

**Attachment E**  
**Fitchburg State University**  
**Foundation Supporting Org. Inc.**  
**FS DRAFT AU-C 260**

## Report Date

To the Board of Directors  
FSU Foundation Supporting Organization, Inc.

We have audited the financial statements of FSU Foundation Supporting Organization, Inc.(the "Organization") for the year ended June 30, 2017 and have issued our report thereon dated **Report Date**. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit, and certain other matters related to the audit.

### Our Responsibilities under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and *Government Auditing Standards*

As stated in our engagement letter dated June 8, 2017, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement, and to express an opinion about whether the financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

As part of our audit, we considered the internal control of FSU Foundation Supporting Organization, Inc. Such considerations were solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of FSU Foundation Supporting Organization, Inc.'s compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit.

We are responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures specifically to identify such matters.

We gave consideration to the non-audit services provided to FSU Foundation Supporting Organization, Inc. during the period of our engagement, which may reasonably be thought to bear on independence, in reaching the conclusion that our independence has not been impaired in accordance with professional standards.

### Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to management in our meeting about planning matters in June, 2017.

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit involved judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested.

Our audit included obtaining an understanding of the entity and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Material misstatements may result from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the entity. This letter communicates any significant findings as a result of our audit.

## Significant Audit Findings

### *Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices*

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by FSU Foundation Supporting Organization, Inc. are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. As described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the Organization changed accounting policies related to debt issuance costs by adopting FASB Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2015-03, *Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs*, in fiscal 2017. Accordingly, the accounting change has been retrospectively applied to the prior period presented as if the policy had always been used.

We noted no transactions entered into by the Organization during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. We found no such accounting estimates affecting the financial statements to be particularly sensitive during our audit.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosure affecting the financial statements is the disclosure of the impairment losses recognized in fiscal 2017 related to real estate properties purchased by the Organization found in Note 3 to the financial statements.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

### *Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit*

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

### *Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements*

Professional standards require us to accumulate all misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

### *Disagreements with Management*

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

### *Management Representations*

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated [Date of Letter].

### *Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants*

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

### *Other Audit Findings or Issues*

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

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Directors and management of FSU Foundation Supporting Organization, Inc. and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

PRELIMINARY DRAFT  
SUBJECT TO CHANGE