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### Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees Debt Report

February 2020

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# **Overview of Outstanding Debt**

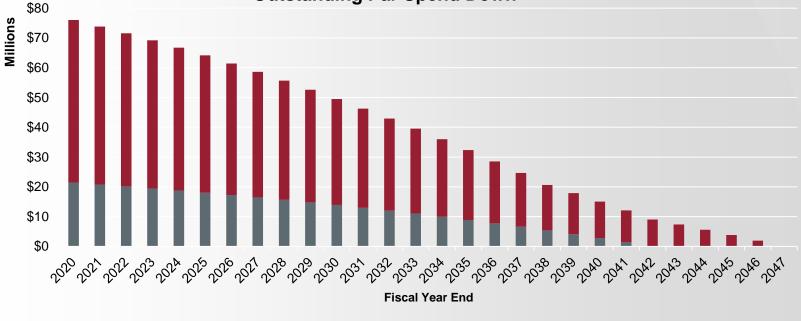
- The University has \$76,630,000 of Bonds outstanding as of February 1, 2020
- Services and Activities Fee Bonds
  - Two issues with \$54,580,000 principal outstanding
  - Two purposes
    - \$19,965,000 for the University Recreation Center construction
    - \$34,615,000 for Pence Union Building renovation
- Housing and Dining System Bonds
  - One series with \$22,050,000 principal outstanding for construction of Snyamncut Hall

#### **University's Moody's Bond Ratings**

- A1 Student Fee Revenue Bonds
- A1 Housing and Dining System Revenue Bonds

# **Current Bond Debt Profile**

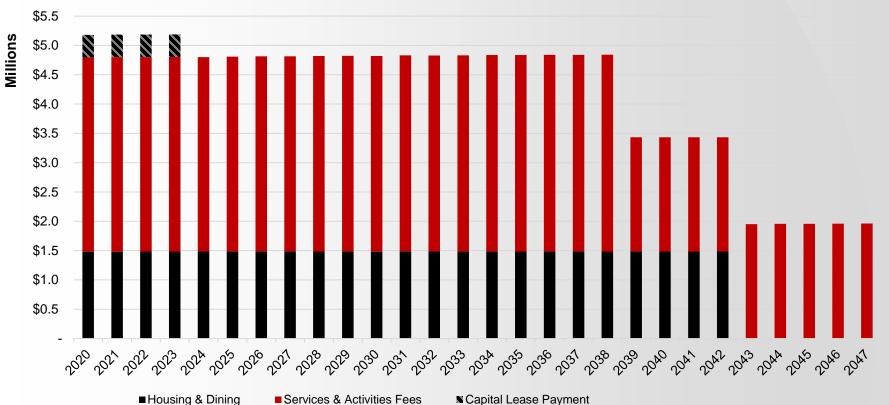
- Outstanding principal of \$76,630,000 includes Student Services and Activities Fee Revenue bonds and Housing and Dining Revenue bonds
- Principal balance declines from \$76,630,000 at Feb 1, 2020 to \$52,610,000 at the end of FY 2029
  - Ten year pay down is 31% of outstanding par (\$24,020,000)



#### **Outstanding Par Spend Down**

# **Annual Bond Payments**

- In addition to Bonds, the University has a capital lease obligation for Brewster Hall through June 2023, with annual lease payments of approximately \$385,000
  - Housing and Dining Bond Average Annual Debt Service (FY 2020-2042): \$1,485,000
  - Services and Activities Fee Bond Average Annual Debt Service (FY 2020-2038): \$3,335,000, declining to \$1,955,000 thereafter



#### **Annual Debt Service Payments**

### Housing and Dining Annual Bond Payments

- Total outstanding bond principal: \$22,050,000
- Average annual bond debt service: \$1,485,000 (FY2020– FY2042)
- Additionally, the University has a capital lease obligation for Brewster Hall through June 2023, with annual lease payments of approximately \$385,000

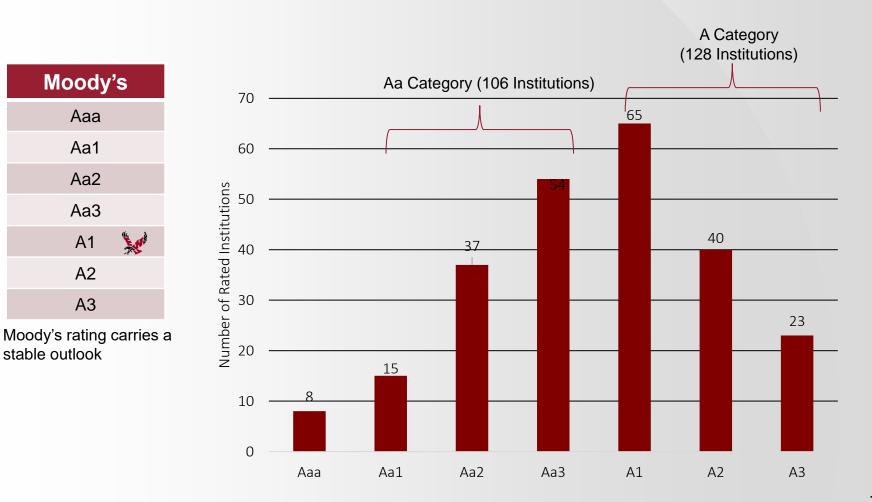


#### Housing and Dining Debt Service

# **Most Recent Rating Activity**

- Moody's affirmed the University's A1 rating (stable outlook) for all outstanding bonds on April 18, 2019.
- Moody's highlighted the following strengths and challenges
- Strengths:
  - Sound state support for both capital and operations and sustained student demand support good operating performance and strong debt service
  - Unrestricted liquidity remains solid
  - Growing presence in Spokane, WA including expanding health sciences offerings
- Challenges:
  - High dependence on student charges and tuition pricing limits for in-state undergraduates, the university's primary student population, which could constrain revenue growth prospects despite steady demand

## Moody's Rating Distribution of Public Higher Education Institutions



## Moody's Scorecard Results - 2018

Metric	% of Total Score	Value	Indicated Score
Market Profile (30%)			
Operating Revenue	15%	\$214,531	А
Annual Change in Operating Revenue	5%	1.9%	Ва
Strategic Positioning	10%	Very Good	А
Operating Performance (25%)			
Operating Cash Flow Margin	10%	8.0%	А
Maximum Single Contribution	15%	61.2%	А
Wealth & Liquidity (25%)			
Total Cash and Investments	10%	\$175,600	Aa
Spendable Cash & Investments to Operating Expenses	10%	0.7x	Aa
Monthly Days Cash on Hand	5%	261 days	Aa
Leverage (20%)			
Spendable Cash & Investments to Total Debt	10%	1.8x	Aa
Total Debt to Cash Flow	10%	4.8x	Aa

Note: Data based on Moody's "Annual Comment on Eastern Washington University" dated April 23, 2019

### Key University Ratios<sup>(1)</sup> Moody's Revised Methodology

Ratio, as defined by Moody's	FY 2018 Moody's "A1" Medians	FY 2019 EWU	FY 2018 Moody's Actual EWU	FY 2017 Moody's Actual EWU	FY 2016 Moody's Actual EWU	FY 2015 Moody's Actual EWU
Spendable Cash & Investments to Total Debt (Higher is Stronger)	1.1x	1.9x	1.8x	1.8x	2.8x	2.5x
Total Debt to Cash Flow (Lower is Stronger)	5.7x	4.9x	4.8x	3.7x	2.7x	2.7x
Debt Burden Ratio (Lower is Stronger)	4.8%	2.2%	2.2%	2.4%	2.1%	2.2%

(1) "Moody's Actual" data based on Moody's "Annual Comment on Eastern Washington University" dated April 23, 2019

# **Auxiliary Coverage**

- Housing and Dining System revenue bond covenants require net revenue be the greater of:
  - Amounts sufficient to provide for payment of debt service and reserve funds;
  - At least 1.25 times debt service
- Student Services and Activities Fee revenue bond covenants require the University to collect student services and activities fees for as long as any bonds are outstanding, to provide the greater of:
  - Amounts sufficient to provide for payment of debt service and reserve funds;
  - At least 1.25 times debt service
- Monitored at least annually

	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2017 Actual	Required Coverage	Basis
Services and Activities Fee	2.99x	3.03x	4.01x	1.25x	Gross Revenue
Housing & Dining	2.22x <sup>(1)</sup>	3.54x	3.25x	1.25x	Net Revenue

<sup>(1)</sup> 2019 H&D coverage is lower due to one time transfers for capital cost of the PUB. Without this transfer coverage would be 3.67x

Note: Higher ratio is stronger

# **University Debt Capacity**

- Debt capacity is not a defined concept, but is based upon a combination of considerations, reflecting two principles:
  - Ability to support annual debt service
  - Overall burden on the University, measured relative to annual revenue and unrestricted net assets
- Capacity is viewed relative to target bond ratings
  - Higher bond ratings generally correlate to lower capacity
  - The University can increase its capacity if it is willing to move down in rating categories
- Debt capacity can be influenced by the addition of new revenue
  - For the housing system, this could come through increased occupancy
  - For student fees, this could come through new student-imposed fees and/or budget changes that redirect revenue from programs to debt
  - Increase operating expenses could reduce debt capacity, e.g. the new lease payments for the catalyst building

# **University Debt Capacity**

- Housing and Dining System:
  - Revenue bonds can be used only for improvements to the Housing or Dining Systems, including related services
  - \$22,050,000 of debt outstanding
  - Additional debt capacity will depend on the updated housing and dining long term plan
- Student Fee Revenue:
  - Revenue bonds can be used only for purposes directly related to student services (i.e., student recreation center, student union building) and not for general public or general University purposes
  - \$54,580,000 of debt outstanding
  - Additional debt capacity will depend on level of new fees

# **Debt Policy Review**

- Authority
  - Debt Policy adopted by the EWU Board of Trustees on October 13, 2006
  - Board Authority and Responsibilities:
    - Authority to issue bonds to fund certain capital property
    - To enter into financing contracts to acquire real property
    - To borrow for short term operating expenses
  - Business and Finance Committee:
    - Authority to consider and make recommendations to the board concerning the financing of capital projects and other borrowings
  - Administration:
    - Charged with all aspects of managing, issuing and serving debt for the University

# **Debt Policy Review**

- Monitoring and Servicing Debt
  - Debt Service payments will be made in an accurate and timely manner
  - The Business and Finance Office will monitor the University's rebatable arbitrage earnings for tax purposes on an annual basis
  - The Business and Finance Office will also evaluate compliance with IRS private use rules and issuance and periodically thereafter
  - The Business and Finance Office will evaluate debt capacity at least bi-annually, and annually present a report to the Board of Trustees on:
    - o Debt issued
    - o Debt outstanding
    - Estimated debt capacity
    - o Credit ratings

# **Debt Policy Review**

- Issuance Criteria
  - All debt will be issued in compliance with the University's legislative authorities
  - Subjected to the University's overall debt capacity and capital plans
  - Consider the impact of additional debt on the University's credit rating
  - The University uses the following financial statement ratios to determine institutional viability as part of the criteria:
    - Primary reserve ratio: unrestricted net assets/operating expenses
    - Current ratio: current assets/current liabilities
    - Debt burden ratio: annual debt service/total operating expenses

	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2014 Actual
Primary Reserve Ratio <sup>(1) (3)</sup>	0.31x	0.40x	0.42x	0.42x	0.40x	0.53x
Current Ratio <sup>(1)</sup>	3.87x	4.28x	4.98x	3.99x	4.23x	4.26x
Debt Burden Ratio <sup>(2)</sup>	2.25%	2.07%	2.48%	2.03%	2.08%	2.02%

- (1) Higher is stronger.
- (2) Lower is stronger.
- (3) FY2019 and FY2018 Primary Reserve Ratios are adjusted to reflect unrestricted net assets prior to the implementation of GASB 75, and extraordinary one-time events.

# **Continuing Disclosure Policy**

- Under the provisions of Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12 (the "Rule"), underwriters are required to obtain an agreement for ongoing disclosure in connection with the public offering of securities
- Unless the University is exempt from compliance with the Rule as a result of certain permitted exemptions, the transcript for each issue will include an undertaking by the University to comply with the Rule
- The Chief Financial Officer of the University will monitor compliance by the University with its undertakings. These undertakings may include:
  - The requirement for annual filing of operating and financial information and
  - Will include a requirement to file notices of listed "material events"
- The 2019 annual filings were completed in the required timeframe, consistent with prior years