THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017
(With Summarized Financial Information for the Year Ended December 31, 2016)

and
Report Thereon

Raffa

Certified Public Accountants

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Trustees of
The Aspen Institute

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Aspen Institute (the Institute), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2017, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the organization's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Aspen Institute as of December 31, 2017, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Continued

Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited the Institute's 2016 financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited financial statements in our report dated July 12, 2017. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Raffa, P.C.

Raffa, P.C.

Washington, DC
July 10, 2018

THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 2017
(With Summarized Financial Information as of December 31, 2016)
(Dollars in Thousands)

	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 4,709	$ 8,438
Accounts receivable, net	6,154	4,185
Grants and contributions receivable, net	45,288	60,571
Prepaid expenses and other assets	5,420	1,795
Inventory	109	123
Investments	204,673	168,236
Investments held for deferred compensation	4,586	3,677
Property and equipment, net	62,166	49,067
Security deposits	102	100
TOTAL ASSETS	$ 333,207	$ 296,192
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 16,622	$ 8,753
Grants payable	6,911	4,555
Customer deposits and deferred fees	6,532	5,764
Capital lease obligations	57	103
Deferred rent and lease incentive	9,624	428
Deferred compensation	4,586	3,677
TOTAL LIABILITIES	44,332	23,280
Net Assets		
Unrestricted		
Board-designated	97,452	84,062
Undesignated	3,031	920
Total Unrestricted	100,483	84,982
Temporarily restricted	129,741	132,845
Permanently restricted	58,651	55,085
TOTAL NET ASSETS	288,875	272,912
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	$ 333,207	$ 296,192

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017
(With Summarized Financial Information for the Year Ended December 31, 2016)
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	2017 Total	2016 Total
OPERATING REVENUE AND SUPPORT					
Project and federal grants	$ 4,146	$ 51,208	$ -	$ 55,354	$ 43,680
Contributions	8,763	24,799	3,566	37,128	41,972
Seminar and event fees	10,764	-	-	10,764	11,160
Conference centers fees	9,789	-	-	9,789	10,963
Contract revenue	8,830	-	-	8,830	9,101
Investment income appropriated for operations	9,159	2,370	-	11,529	6,005
Sponsorship revenue	7,327	-	-	7,327	3,577
Other	449	-	-	449	510
Rental income	208	-	-	208	153
Net assets released from restrictions:					
Satisfaction of time restrictions	22,597	(22,597)	-	-	-
Satisfaction of program restrictions	64,761	(64,761)	-	-	-
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE AND SUPPORT	146,793	(8,981)	3,566	141,378	127,121
EXPENSES AND LOSSES					
Program Services:					
Policy programs	64,099	-	-	64,099	49,508
Campus activities	16,877	-	-	16,877	16,970
Public programs	11,500	-	-	11,500	12,692
Aspen Global Leadership Network and Innovation funds	8,166	-	-	8,166	6,726
Seminars	723	-	-	723	912
Youth and engagement	3,620	-	-	3,620	1,634
Other restricted programs	1,413	-	-	1,413	1,365
Total Program Services	106,398	-	-	106,398	89,807
Supporting Services:					
General and administrative	24,178	-	-	24,178	20,750
Fundraising and development	4,417	-	-	4,417	3,681
Total Supporting Services	28,595	-	-	28,595	24,431
TOTAL EXPENSES	134,993	-	-	134,993	114,238
Change in net assets from operations	11,800	(8,981)	3,566	6,385	12,883
NONOPERATING ITEMS					
Investment income in excess of appropriation	1,810	5,877	-	7,687	1,052
Provision for deferred taxes	3,506	-	-	3,506	-
Loss of early lease termination	(1,615)	-	-	(1,615)	-
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	15,501	(3,104)	3,566	15,963	13,935
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	84,982	132,845	55,085	272,912	258,977
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	$ 100,483	$ 129,741	$ 58,651	$ 288,875	$ 272,912

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017
(With Summarized Financial Information for the Year Ended December 31, 2016)
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Program Services								Supporting Services				
	Policy Programs	Campus Activities	Public Programs	Aspen Global Leadership Network and Innovation Funds	Seminars	Youth and Engagement	Other Restricted Programs	Total Program Services	General and Administrative	Fundraising and Development	Total Supporting Services	2017 Total	2016 Total
Salaries	$ 20,015	$ 1,266	$ 3,456	$ 3,163	$ 345	$ 937	$ 374	$ 29,556	$ 10,535	$ 1,974	$ 12,509	$ 42,065	$ 37,078
Contracted services	7,344	15,070	2,074	1,131	104	853	171	26,747	3,331	463	3,794	30,541	27,543
Travel	9,206	124	3,833	1,867	98	1,087	378	16,593	985	561	1,546	18,139	17,795
Fringe benefits	5,800	320	1,011	949	108	282	118	8,588	1,627	591	2,218	10,806	7,928
Awards and scholarships	4,694	-	-	300	-	65	-	5,059	-	-	-	5,059	3,878
Grants	11,677	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,677	-	-	-	11,677	6,688
Supplies	745	-	441	134	28	144	221	1,713	2,816	249	3,065	4,778	2,677
Depreciation and amortization	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,691	-	2,691	2,691	2,764
Occupancy and utilities	1,789	52	245	245	6	35	15	2,387	1,229	142	1,371	3,758	3,115
Partner reimbursements	1,183	-	6	-	-	-	50	1,239	-	-	-	1,239	1,332
Publications	706	12	320	221	23	92	66	1,440	197	133	330	1,770	1,504
Communications	593	33	113	45	11	125	20	940	425	40	465	1,405	1,320
Bad debts	347	-	1	111	-	-	-	459	-	264	264	723	283
Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	339	-	339	339	326
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	3	7
TOTAL EXPENSES	$ 64,099	$ 16,877	$ 11,500	$ 8,166	$ 723	$ 3,620	$ 1,413	$ 106,398	$ 24,178	$ 4,417	$ 28,595	$ 134,993	$ 114,238

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017
(With Summarized Financial Information for the Year Ended December 31, 2016)
Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents
(Dollars in Thousands)

	2017	2016
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Change in net assets	$ 15,963	$ 13,935
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	2,691	2,764
Unrealized gains on investments	(20,063)	(7,817)
Realized losses on investments	159	51
Provision for deferred taxes	(3,506)	-
Contributions restricted for long-term purposes	(5,136)	(3,023)
Change in the present value discount for grants and contributions	(1,530)	15
Change in allowance for doubtful accounts	(163)	(122)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(1,969)	(2,299)
Grants and contributions receivable	16,976	10,238
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(119)	(670)
Inventory	14	9
Security deposits	(2)	(7)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	7,083	1,971
Grants payable	2,356	2,232
Customer deposits and deferred fees	768	(252)
Deferred rent and lease incentive	9,196	(155)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	22,718	16,870
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchases of property and equipment	(15,004)	(1,179)
Purchases of investments	(150,928)	(104,610)
Proceeds from sales of investments	134,395	87,408
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(31,537)	(18,381)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Principal payments on capital lease obligations	(46)	(56)
Contributions restricted for long-term purposes	5,136	3,023
NET CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES	5,090	2,967
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(3,729)	1,456
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	8,438	6,982
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	$ 4,709	$ 8,438
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Cash paid for interest	$ 3	$ 7
Noncash Investing Activities:		
Leasehold improvements acquired under a leasehold allowance	$ 8,996	$ -
Obligation of leasehold improvements acquired under a leasehold allowance	(8,996)	-
Fixed assets included in accounts payable and accrued expenses	786	-
Total Noncash Investing Activities	$ 786	$ -

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

1. Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Organization

The Aspen Institute (the Institute) is a Colorado nonprofit corporation that is funded mainly through conference, seminar and event fees, contracts, and grants and contributions from foundations, individuals and corporations. The primary purpose of the Institute is twofold: to foster values-based leadership, encouraging individuals to reflect on the ideals and ideas that define a good society, and to provide a neutral and balanced venue for discussing and acting on critical issues. It convenes leaders and emerging leaders from around the world to focus on critical, value-laden issues that confront societies, organizations and individuals. Utilizing the rigorous discipline of informed dialogue and inquiry, the Institute's programs enhance the participants' ability to think clearly about such issues while still remaining mindful of the primacy of the moral perspective and the importance of differing viewpoints.

The Institute's principal office is located in Washington, D.C. Its conference facilities are in Aspen, Colorado, and on the Wye River in Maryland. The Institute also has offices in New York City. The Institute operates outside the United States through a network of partners based in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the Czech Republic, Mexico, India, Romania, Ukraine and Japan. Each of the foreign entities operates as a separate and distinct organization, with no support or financial relationship to the Institute.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Cash Equivalents

The Institute considers highly liquid investment instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash and cash equivalents held for investing purposes are considered investments.

Investments

The Institute invests in a professionally managed portfolio that contains money market funds, mutual funds, U.S. government securities, fixed foreign bonds and limited partnerships. Investments are reported in the accompanying statement of financial position at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset, or paid to transfer a liability through an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Purchases and sales are reflected on a trade date basis. Interest, dividends and realized gains or losses are recorded when earned. Changes in the fair value of the portfolio are recorded as unrealized gains or losses. Donated investments are recorded as contributions based on their fair market value at the date of donation.

The estimated fair value of investments in limited partnerships, which are not readily marketable, is based on the ownership percentage of the underlying fund or partnerships' capital as of the measurement date. The funds and partnerships value underlying securities and other financial instruments on a fair value basis of accounting. The estimated fair values of certain investments of the underlying investment funds and partnerships, which may include

Continued

1. Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Investments (continued)

private placements and other securities for which prices are not readily available, are determined by the general partners or managers of the respective investment partnerships and funds, and may not reflect amounts that could be realized upon immediate sale nor amounts that may be ultimately realized. The Institute follows the accounting guidance that permits, as a practical expedient, the fair value of investments within its scope to be estimated using net asset value (NAV) or its equivalent. Because of the inherent uncertainty of the valuation of these funds and of certain of the underlying investments held by these funds, their values may differ significantly from values that would have been used had a ready market for the investments existed.

The Institute has placed a majority of its investments held with its third-party investment advisor in a limited partnership investment which invests in funds of funds. See Note 3 for more details.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

In accordance with the accounting standards for fair value measurement for those assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis, the Institute has categorized its applicable assets and liabilities measured at fair value into a required fair value hierarchy. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). If the inputs used to measure the financial instruments fall within different levels of the hierarchy, the categorization is based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement of the instrument.

Applicable financial assets and liabilities are categorized based on the inputs to the valuation techniques as follows:

> *Level 1* – Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market that the Institute has the ability to access.
>
> *Level 2* – Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on quoted prices in markets that are not active or model inputs that are observable, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.
>
> *Level 3* – Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement.

As of and for the year ended December 31, 2017, only the Institute's investments and investments held for deferred compensation, as described in Note 3 of these financial statements, were measured at fair value on a recurring basis.

1. Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Accounts, Grants and Contributions Receivable

Accounts, grants and contributions receivable are recorded at their present net realizable value. Accounts past due are individually analyzed for collectibility. When all collection efforts have been exhausted, the account is written off against an allowance account. Management annually adjusts the allowance account based upon its estimate of those accounts, grants and contributions receivable it believes to be uncollectible.

Property and Equipment and Related Depreciation and Amortization

Land, buildings and other property and equipment purchases greater than $5,000 are capitalized and carried at cost. Donated land, buildings and other property and equipment are stated at fair market value at the date of donation. Expenditures for major additions, renewals and improvements are capitalized; expenditures for repairs and maintenance are expensed when incurred. Upon the retirement or disposal of assets, the cost and accumulated depreciation and amortization are eliminated from the accounts and the resulting gain or loss is reflected in the accompanying statement of activities. Depreciation and amortization are provided on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Costs related to construction in progress are not depreciated until the assets are completed and placed in service.

The estimated useful lives for property and equipment are as follows:

Category	Estimated Life
Buildings and improvements	3-35 years
Furniture and fixtures	3-13 years
Computers and software	3-5 years
Equipment	5-10 years
Ground improvements	3-40 years
Property held under capital lease	4-5 years
Leasehold improvements	Shorter of remaining term of lease or 3-10 years

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

The Institute reviews its property for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. If the fair value is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognized for the difference. As of December 31, 2017, the Institute had not recognized an impairment loss.

1. Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Classification of Net Assets

The net assets and revenues of the Institute are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, the net assets of the Institute and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

- Unrestricted net assets represent the portion of expendable funds that are available for support of the Institute's general operations, including amounts designated by the Board of Trustees.
- Temporarily restricted net assets represent amounts that are specifically restricted by donors or grantors for various programs or for specific future time periods.
- Permanently restricted net assets represent the endowment funds of the Institute, which are required to be held in perpetuity.

Support and Revenue Recognition

The Institute reports unconditional gifts and grants of cash and other assets as unrestricted and available for general operations unless specifically restricted by the donor. If gifts and grants are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated funds or assets to a particular purpose or to specific time periods, the Institute reports them as temporarily restricted. When a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is met, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Unconditional gifts and grants that are expected to be collected within one year are recorded at net realizable value. Unconditional gifts and grants that are expected to be collected in future years are recorded at the present value of their estimated future cash flows. The discounts on these amounts are computed using a rate commensurate with the risks identified. Amortization of the discounts is included in contribution revenue.

Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenue is recorded in the period in which it is earned. Accordingly, advance collections from customers for use of the Institute's facilities are recorded as customer deposits and recognized as revenue when services are provided. Conference center, seminar and event fees are recorded in the period in which the applicable event takes place or service is provided.

Functional Allocation of Expenses

The costs of providing various general and administrative expenses (such as accounting, human resources and systems support) are allocated among programs and supporting activities based on budgeted levels of related departmental costs. Other expenses that benefit both supporting and program activities, such as occupancy and depreciation, are allocated based on estimated usage or other relevant factors.

1. Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Measure of Operations

Operating revenue and expenses generally reflect those revenues and expenses that management can influence, including annual authorized operating support from the endowment and investment pool based on the spending formula established by the Institute's Board of Trustees. Nonoperating activities include investment earnings (losses) of the investment portfolio in excess of endowment and other earnings appropriated for expenditure, the provision for deferred taxes and the loss on lease termination.

2. Grants and Contributions Receivable

Grants and contributions receivable include unconditional promises to give from foundations, corporations and individual donors, which were due as follows as of December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

Less than one year	$ 11,400
One to five years	39,165
Total Grants and Contributions Receivable	50,565
Less: Discount to Net Present Value (1.0-3.7%)	(2,997)
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	(2,280)
Grants and Contributions Receivable, Net	$ 45,288

During 2015, the Institute received a contribution from one of its board members in the amount of $10 million to establish a term endowment for a leadership fund. The same board member has conditionally promised an additional $2 million match if the Institute is able to raise $7 million of contributions toward the leadership fund from other donors. As of December 31, 2017, the Institute had not raised any additional funds, and therefore it had not recognized any revenue from the conditional pledge. In addition, as of December 31, 2017, the Institute had approximately $20.4 million in conditional grants receivable from various donors, in varying amounts, which were not reflected on the accompanying statement of financial position. These conditional project grants require the Institute's completion of contractual tasks, milestones and other matching requirements which are subject to periodic donor review and approval before the project may continue and, therefore, the Institute has not recognized any revenue from the conditional portions of these grants.

3. Investments

The Institute's investments, at fair value, consisted of the following as of December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

Limited partnerships	$ 175,020
Equity mutual funds	11,649
Fixed-income funds	14,347
Money market funds	3,657
Total Investments	$ 204,673

As of December 31, 2017, approximately 86% of the Institute's investments were invested in limited partnerships, which are generally not readily marketable. Accordingly, the fair value of these investments may differ materially from the value that would have been used had an established market for such investments existed. Future events will also affect the estimates of fair value, and the effect of such events could be material.

Investment returns for the year ended December 31, 2017 (in thousands), were as follows:

Unrealized gains	$ 20,063
Interest and dividends	500
Realized losses	(159)
Management fees	(1,188)
Net Investment Gain	19,216
Less: Earnings Appropriated for Expenditure	(11,529)
Investment Income in Excess of Appropriation	$ 7,687

3. Investments (continued)

The following table summarizes the Institute's assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

	Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Assets:				
Investments:				
Money market funds	$ 3,657	$ 3,657	$ -	$ -
Equity mutual funds:				
Large blend	8,103	8,103	-	-
Foreign large blend	3,546	3,546	-	-
Fixed income:				
U.S. Treasury obligations	6	-	6	-
U.S. government securities	3,904	-	3,904	-
Corporate and foreign bonds	10,437	-	10,437	-
Investments Measured in the Fair Value Hierarchy	29,653	$ 15,306	$ 14,347	$ -
Limited partnerships	175,020			
Total Investments	204,673			
Investments held for deferred compensation:				
Mutual funds	3,488	$ -	$ 3,488	$ -
Variable annuities	255	-	255	-
Investment contract with insurance company	843	-	-	843
Total investments held for deferred compensation	4,586	$ -	$ 3,743	$ 843
Total Assets	$ 209,259			

The Institute used the following methods and significant assumptions to estimate fair value for assets recorded at fair value:

Limited partnerships – These consist of investments in partnerships that trade and invest in domestic and international equity funds, hedge funds and real asset funds, as well as marketable equity securities, debt instruments, convertible securities, options,

Continued

3. Investments (continued)

warrants, futures, swaps, other derivatives and nonpublic securities. The partnerships are subject to certain restrictions and generally have no established trading market. Fair value is determined based on the partnership or fund's NAV as provided by the partnership's fund management or the general partner of the respective fund.

Money market funds and fixed income securities – Where quoted prices are available in an active market, the investments are classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy. Level 1 investments include money market funds. If quoted market prices in an active market are not available, then fair values are estimated using pricing models, quoted prices of securities with similar characteristics, or discounted cash flows. These instruments in the investment portfolio, which would generally be classified within Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy, include U.S. Treasury obligations, U.S. government securities, and corporate and foreign bonds. Investments held for deferred compensation include mutual funds, variable annuities and an investment contract with an insurance company. The mutual funds are valued at the NAV of units held and are classified within Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy, as the mutual funds are not traded on a public exchange. The investment contract with an insurance company is classified within Level 3. The variable annuities are primarily valued using market quotations or prices obtained from independent pricing sources that may employ various pricing methods to value the investments, including matrix pricing.

The following represents the Institute's activity for the Level 3 investments for the year ended December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

	Investment Contract
Balance at December 31, 2016	$ 631
Purchases	52
Sales	-
Net realized and unrealized losses	160
Balance at December 31, 2017	$ 843
The amount of gains for the year ended December 31, 2017, included in the change in net assets attributable to the change in unrealized gains or losses relating to assets still held at December 31, 2017 (in thousands):	$ 160

3. Investments (continued)

The Institute invests in certain entities that calculate NAV per share in accordance with guidance relative to investment companies, and these investments are reported at fair value based on the NAV per share, as reported by the investee. A summary of the significant categories of such investments and their attributes as of December 31, 2017, is as follows (in thousands):

	Fair Value	Number of Funds	Unfunded Commitments	Redemption Terms and Restrictions
Limited Partnerships[(a)]	$ 175,020	4	$ 47	Redemption of one of the funds is available at the end of each calendar year with notification required prior to September 1. The other three funds, which are less than 1% of holdings, are not eligible for redemption.
Total	$ 175,020		$ 47	

(a) Limited partnerships – This category includes investments in limited partnerships whose fund strategies include, but are not limited to, direct and indirect company co-investments, buyouts, public-to-private transactions, and strategic and growth capital investments. The limited partnership that is eligible for redemption invests with a long-term, endowment-style horizon, seeking varied and nontraditional investment opportunities, in an effort to provide a diversified, single-portfolio investment strategy for investors. This fund invests primarily through its affiliated subpartnerships, although it may also invest directly in securities and other assets such as forward contracts, future contracts, and swaps and options. Based upon this approach, management of the Institute finds the resulting diversification within this fund to eliminate any concentration of risk from its investment portfolio.

4. Property and Equipment and Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization

The Institute held the following property and equipment as of December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

Buildings and improvements	$ 66,892
Land	10,628
Leasehold improvements	10,584
Construction in progress	5,545
Equipment	4,918
Furniture and fixtures	4,735
Ground improvements	2,205
Computers and software	1,197
Artwork	1,071
Property held under capital lease	922
Total Property and Equipment	108,697
Less: Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization	(46,531)
Property and Equipment, Net	$ 62,166

Depreciation and amortization expense was $2.691 million for the year ended December 31, 2017.

5. Grants Payable

As of December 31, 2017, grants payable of $6.911 million represented unconditional promises to give which were due in less than one year.

6. Commitments and Risks

Line of Credit

The Institute entered into a revolving line of credit agreement with a financial institution on December 31, 2009. Under the agreement, the Institute can borrow up to $5 million. Interest charged on any borrowings is calculated using a variable interest rate based on the one-month London Interbank Offered Rate plus 2.25%. As of December 31, 2017, the interest rate was 3.81%. This line of credit agreement is reevaluated and renewed annually by the financial institution. There were no borrowings during the year ended, nor was there a balance due on the line of credit agreement as of, December 31, 2017.

Concentration of Credit Risk

The Institute maintains its cash and cash equivalents in various bank deposit accounts in which, at times, they exceed federally insured limits and, therefore, bear some risk. The amount in excess of the limit guaranteed by federal agencies was approximately $6.1 million as of December 31, 2017. The Institute has not experienced, nor does it anticipate, any loss of funds.

Continued

6. Commitments and Risks (continued)

Commitments

Under the terms of the President's agreement, the President may be eligible for severance pay if the Institute terminates his employment without cause.

Construction Contract

In August 2017, the Institute entered into an agreement for construction services totaling \$8.814 million related to the expansion and renovation at the Institute's reception building in Aspen, Colorado. The remaining commitment under this agreement was approximately \$6.038 million as of December 31, 2017.

7. Leases

Operating Leases

The Institute occupies office space under various noncancelable operating lease agreements in Washington, D.C., and New York City. The leases contain escalation clauses for taxes and operating expenses. The lease for the New York City office expires on December 31, 2021, and the leases for the Washington, D.C., offices expire on April 30, 2019. On November 22, 2016, the Institute entered into a noncancelable operating lease for office space for a new headquarters location in Washington, D.C. The old Washington, D.C., leases were terminated early, which resulted in a loss of \$1.615 million. The term of the new Washington, D.C., lease is for the period December 1, 2017, through December 31, 2033. Under GAAP, all lease incentives and fixed rent increases are recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. The difference between this expense and the required lease payments is reflected as deferred rent and lease incentive in the accompanying statement of financial position.

As of December 31, 2017, future minimum lease payments were as follows (in thousands):

For the Year Ending December 31,	
2018	$ 7,474
2019	6,376
2020	5,702
2021	5,838
2022	5,612
Thereafter	64,011
Total	$ 95,013

Rent expense incurred under the operating leases was \$3.407 million for the year ended December 31, 2017.

7. Leases (continued)

Capital Leases

The Institute leases various transportation and office equipment under capital leases that expire at various times through 2019. Future minimum lease payments required under the Institute's capital leases are as follows (in thousands):

For the Year Ending December 31,		
2018	$	41
2019		17
Total Future Minimum Lease Payments		58
Less: Amount Representing Interest		(1)
Present Value of Net Minimum Lease Payments	$	57

Interest rates on capital leases were imputed based on the lower of the Institute's incremental borrowing rate at the inception of each lease or the implicit rate of return. Interest expense under the capital leases was $3 thousand for the year ended December 31, 2017.

8. Net Assets

Board-Designated Net Assets

Board-designated net assets consisted of the following at December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

Plant fund	$	47,305
Quasi-endowment		32,902
Policy programs funds		5,606
Aspen Global Leadership Network and Innovation funds		4,861
Operating fund – reserves and special projects		6,778
Total Board-Designated Net Assets	$	97,452

Continued

8. Net Assets (continued)

Temporarily Restricted Net Assets

Temporarily restricted net assets consisted of the following at December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

Purpose-restricted:	
Policy programs	$ 47,587
Endowment earnings	16,544
Aspen Global Leadership Network	11,199
Term endowments – Leadership fund and other	10,980
Capital projects	7,714
Scholarships	5,990
Other restricted programs	2,343
Total Purpose-Restricted	102,357
Time-restricted	27,384
Total Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	$ 129,741

Permanently Restricted Net Assets and Endowment

The Institute's endowment consists of individual funds established for a variety of purposes. Its endowment includes both donor-restricted endowment funds and funds designated by the Board of Trustees to function as endowments. As required by GAAP, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the Board of Trustees to function as endowments, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. The Institute's endowment fund includes unrestricted quasi-endowments, temporarily restricted unexpended endowment earnings and permanently restricted net assets.

Interpretation of Relevant Law

The Board of Trustees of the Institute has interpreted the enacted version of the District of Columbia Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds, absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the Institute classifies as permanently restricted net assets (a) the original value of gifts donated to the permanent endowment, (b) the original value of subsequent gifts to the permanent endowment and (c) accumulations to the permanent endowment made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument at the time the accumulation is added to the fund. The remaining portion of the donor-restricted endowment fund, that is not classified in permanently restricted net assets, is classified as temporarily restricted net assets, until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the Institute in a

Continued

8. Net Assets (continued)

Permanently Restricted Net Assets and Endowment (continued)

Interpretation of Relevant Law (continued)

manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by UPMIFA. In accordance with UPMIFA, the Institute considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

- The duration and preservation of the fund.
- The purposes of the Institute and the donor-restricted endowment fund.
- General economic conditions.
- The possible effects of inflation and deflation.
- The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments.
- Other resources of the Institute.
- The investment policies of the Institute.

Return Objectives and Risk Parameters

The mission of the Institute's long-term investment pool is to provide a common investment vehicle that will generate a stable and continuously growing income stream for the Institute's endowment, quasi-endowment and operating reserve funds, for which the Institute is both the trustee and the beneficiary. The overall goal of the investment pool is to preserve the purchasing power of the future stream of endowment payout for those funds and activities supported by the endowments and, to the extent this is achieved, to cause the principal to grow in value over time. Other goals include:

- To maximize return within reasonable and prudent levels of risk.
- To maximize the value of the endowment while maintaining liquidity needed to support spending in prolonged down markets.

Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives

Extensive diversification is sought at all times. Experience has shown that financial markets and inflation rates are cyclical and, therefore, control of volatility will be achieved through diversification of asset classes and selection of managers of diverse investment styles. The Board of Trustees examines the correlation of historic returns among each asset class and manager. Investment managers are appointed following a systematic search for those with demonstrated quality in the style desired. Managers are given discretion to manage funds entrusted in accordance with the style for which they are employed, provided they comply with the restrictions and limitations that may be determined by the Institute from time to time.

8. Net Assets (continued)

Permanently Restricted Net Assets and Endowment (continued)

Spending Policy

The Institute will appropriate for expenditure in its annual budget a maximum of 4.5% of the rolling average of the market value of the endowment assets over the preceding 12 quarters, the base to be adjusted for new capital contributions to the endowment. There may be times when the Institute may opt not to take the maximum spending rate, but rather to reinvest some of the annual return. This spending rate is based on the long-term assumption of 5% nominal investment returns and a 3% inflation rate. The spending rate for the year ended December 31, 2017, was 3.7%.

From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual endowment funds may fall below the fair value of the original gift(s). Deficiencies of this nature are reported as part of unrestricted net assets. As of December 31, 2017, there were no such deficiencies.

The Institute's endowment net asset composition by fund type was as follows as of December 31, 2016 (in thousands):

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Donor-restricted endowment funds	$ -	$ 27,524	$ 58,651	$ 86,175
Board-designated endowment funds	32,902	-	-	32,902
Total Endowment Net Assets	$ 32,902	$ 27,524	$ 58,651	$ 119,077

The endowment activity was as follows for the year ended December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Endowment net assets, beginning of year	$ 25,415	$ 19,379	$ 55,085	$ 99,879
Investment return:				
Interest and dividends	1	110	-	111
Net investment gains (realized and unrealized)	2,752	8,137	-	10,889
Total Investment Return	2,753	8,247	-	11,000
Contributions/Additions	5,538	3,562	3,566	12,666
Appropriation of endowment assets for expenditure	(804)	(3,664)	-	(4,468)
Endowment net assets, end of year	$ 32,902	$ 27,524	$ 58,651	$ 119,077

Continued

8. Net Assets (continued)

Permanently Restricted Net Assets and Endowment (continued)

The Institute's donor-restricted endowment net assets were as follows as of December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

Permanently restricted net assets:	
The portion of perpetual endowment funds that are required to be retained permanently, either by explicit donor stipulation or by UPMIFA	$ 58,651
Temporarily restricted net assets:	
The portion of perpetual endowment funds subject to a time restriction under UPMIFA:	
Without purpose restrictions	$ -
With purpose restrictions	27,524
Total endowment funds classified as temporarily restricted net assets	$ 27,524

Permanently restricted net assets are subject to donor-imposed restrictions requiring that the principal be invested in perpetuity. Income on these funds is temporarily restricted for purposes imposed by the donors. Permanently restricted net assets consisted of the following as of December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

Henry Crown Endowment	$ 24,833
Literary Prize	6,000
AGLN Endowed Programming	5,375
Harman/Eisner Artist in Residence	4,010
Socrates Society Endowment	3,395
Endowed Scholarships and Fellowships	3,204
Harman Family Endowment	2,000
Hurst Student Seminars	2,000
Melva Bucksbaum Endowment	1,016
Lauder Socrates Scholarships	1,000
McCloskey Speaker Series	1,000
Leadership Fund	989
Berwick Chair	856
Socrates Program Endowment	796
Steel Endowment	667
Calaway Education Fund	519
Roaring Fork-Edlis Neeson	250
Hearst Foundation NPSRF Endowment	200
Patrick Kelly Scholars Fund Endowment	195
Robert McKay Endowment	194
Musser Japanese Garden	152
Total Permanently Restricted Net Assets	$ 58,651

Continued

9. Employee Benefit Arrangements

Defined Contribution Plan

The Institute sponsors a defined contribution plan. Benefits are administered through the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association – College Retirement Equities Fund.

The plan was initially established on January 1, 1964. The plan was last amended on January 1, 2009, in order to comply with certain Internal Revenue Service regulations. An employee is eligible to participate in the elective deferral portion of the plan on the date of hire. There is no minimum age an employee must attain to become a participant in the plan for purposes of making voluntary deferrals. An employee may begin participation in the employer contribution portion of the plan upon completion of a 12-month period during which the employee completes at least 1,000 hours of service and has also attained age 21.

For all eligible employees hired prior to February 1, 2002, the Institute contributes 15% of each participant's eligible wages. For all eligible participants hired on or after February 1, 2002, the Institute contributes between 5% and 10% of each participant's eligible wages, depending on each employee's years of service. The Institute also matches up to 5% of employee deferrals if the employee participates in the tax-deferred option of the plan. Voluntary employee contributions are made on a monthly basis, subject to legal limits. The Institute made a contribution of $3.851 million for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Deferred Compensation

The Institute established a 457(b) deferred compensation plan on behalf of certain executives of the Institute, effective September 1, 2002. The deferred compensation plan was organized under Section 457(b) of the Internal Revenue Code (the IRC) and is unfunded. Any distributions under the plan are to be made out of the general assets of the Institute. The Institute has set aside funds to meet this obligation. Total investments held under the deferred compensation plan, as well as the related liability, were $4.586 million as of December 31, 2017.

Self-Insured Medical Plan

The Institute maintains a self-insured medical plan for the benefit of its employees. A stop-loss policy is in effect, which limits the Institute's loss per individual employee to $75 thousand, and an aggregate stop-loss of $2.996 million. The plan is administered through a contractual relationship with an unrelated company. The Institute is solely responsible for all claims incurred up to the amount of the stop-loss provisions. The Institute's expense under the plan amounted to $4.545 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. The Institute included a provision for estimated claims in accounts payable and accrued expenses in the accompanying statement of financial position in the amount of $1.097 million as of December 31, 2017.

Retiree Medical Benefits

The Institute also provides retiree health coverage for current and future retirees. All employees may become eligible for these benefits if they reach normal retirement age while working for the Institute and meet certain service requirements. The retiree is responsible for the entire cost of the insurance premium.

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10. Contingencies

Office of Management and Budget Uniform Guidance

The Institute has instructed its independent auditors to audit its applicable federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2017, in compliance with Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (the Uniform Guidance), issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Until such audit is reviewed and accepted by the contracting or granting agencies, there exists a contingent liability to refund any amounts received in excess of allowable costs. Management believes that any matters arising from the reviews by the federal or state agencies of the independent auditor's reports for the year ended December 31, 2017, will not have a material effect on the Institute's financial position as of December 31, 2017, or its results of operations for the year then ended.

Indirect Cost Reimbursement

Billings under cost-reimbursable government contracts and grants are calculated using provisional rates that permit recovery of indirect costs. These rates are subject to audit by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Institute's cognizant agency. The audit results in the negotiation and determination of the final indirect cost rates, which may create availability for indirect cost recovery for amounts billed in excess of the actual rates, or may allow for additional billings for unbilled indirect costs.

USAID audits costs related to U.S. government contracts and grants, in accordance with cost principles issued by OMB. USAID has yet to audit the costs and indirect cost rates for the year ended December 31, 2017. Management believes that cost disallowances, if any, arising from USAID's audit will not have a material effect on the Institute's financial position as of December 31, 2017, or its results of operations for the year then ended.

11. Management Contracts

The Institute had an agreement with the Marriott Corporation to manage and operate the Wye River Conference Center. This agreement was scheduled to expire on December 31, 2018. However, both parties mutually agreed to terminate the contract as of December 31, 2017. A new management contract was entered into with Wyndham Worldwide Corporation (Wyndham) to manage and operate the Wye River Conference Center effective January 1, 2017, for five years expiring on December 31, 2021. This agreement provides for a flat annual management fee of $125 thousand.

The Institute has a management contract with Wyndham to manage the conference facilities in Aspen, Colorado. Wyndham annually establishes procedures and rates for use of the facilities for the Institute's groups and other local nonprofit groups with the prior approval of the Institute. Wyndham's management is monitored annually using performance standards established by the Institute and is compensated based on an incentive management fee schedule. The Institute and Wyndham have entered into a second renewal term on the original management agreement extending the contract until December 31, 2021.

Continued

12. Income Taxes

The Institute is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRC. However, income from certain activities not directly related to the Institute's tax-exempt purpose is subject to taxation as unrelated business income. The Institute generates unrelated business income from advertising, investment and rental income.

Under the asset and liability method of Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 740, *Income Taxes*, deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized as revenue or expense in the period that includes the enactment date.

The Institute had a deferred tax asset of approximately $4.462 million resulting from a federal net operating loss carryforward of approximately $16.7 million and state net operating loss carryforwards of approximately $32.324 million as of December 31, 2017. The Institute's deferred tax asset had been partially reserved by management as of December 31, 2017, due to uncertainty over the ability to recognize any future tax benefit from its state net operating loss carryforward based upon projections for operating and taxable losses. There is no expiration date for the federal net operating loss carryforward.

The net deferred tax asset consists of the following as of December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

Deferred tax asset	$ 4,462
Deferred tax valuation allowance	(956)
Net Deferred Tax Asset	$ 3,506

The net deferred tax asset is included in prepaid expenses and other assets in the accompanying statement of financial position.

Effective January 1, 2009, the Institute adopted the authoritative guidance relating to accounting for uncertainty in income taxes included in ASC Topic *Income Taxes*. These provisions provide consistent guidance for the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an entity's financial statements and prescribe a threshold of "more likely than not" for recognition and derecognition of tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The Institute performed an evaluation of uncertainty in income taxes for the year ended December 31, 2017, and determined that there were no matters that would require recognition in the financial statements or that may have any effect on its tax-exempt status. As of December 31, 2017, the statute of limitations for tax years 2014 through 2016 remained open with the U.S. federal jurisdiction or the various states and local jurisdictions in which the Institute files tax returns. It is the Institute's policy to recognize interest and/or penalties related to uncertainty in income taxes, if any, in income tax expense. As of December 31, 2017, the Institute had no accruals for interest and/or penalties.

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13. Prior Year Financial Information

The financial statements include certain prior year summarized comparative information in total but not by net asset class. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with GAAP. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Institute's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016, from which the summarized information was derived.

14. Subsequent Events

The Institute's management has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through July 10, 2018, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no subsequent events that require recognition or disclosure in these financial statements.