

SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT
for
TIAA-CREF Retirement Plan for Employees of Lenoir-Rhyne University

This is a summary of the annual report for TIAA-CREF Retirement Plan for Employees of Lenoir-Rhyne University, 56-0556753/004 for the period 01/01/2015 through 12/31/2015. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, formerly known as the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Basic Financial Statement

Benefits under the plan are provided by insurance and a trust. Plan expenses were \$3,066,700. These expenses included \$50,451 in administrative expenses and \$3,016,249 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries. A total of 731 persons were participants in or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year, although not all of these persons had yet earned the right to receive benefits.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$40,494,430 as of 12/31/2015, compared to \$41,019,454 as of 01/01/2015. During the plan year the plan experienced a decrease in its net assets of (\$525,024). This decrease includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$2,541,676, including employer contributions of \$840,040, employee contributions of \$743,645, gains of \$0 from the sale of assets and earnings from investments of \$655,143.

Your Rights to Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

1. An accountant's report;
2. Financial and information on payments to service providers;
3. Assets held for investment;
4. Insurance information including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers;
5. Information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled separate accounts, master trusts or 103 - 12 investment entities in which the plan participates;

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of Lenoir-Rhyne University, who is Plan Administrator at PO Box 7164, Hickory NC 28603-7164, (828) 328-1741.

You also have the right to receive from the plan administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of the plan and accompanying notes, if any, or a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, if any, or both. If you request a copy of the full annual report from the plan administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes, if any, will be included as part of that report.

You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan at PO Box 7164, Hickory NC 28603-7164 and at the US Department of Labor in Washington DC, or obtain a copy from the US Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to: Public Disclosure Room, Room N-1513, Employee Benefits Security Administration, US Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20210.