













Master of Science in Nursing (RN to MSN Bridge Program) with a specialization in Public Health  
Master of Science in Nursing with a specialization in Informatics  
Master of Science in Nursing (RN to MSN Bridge Program) with a specialization in Informatics  
Master in Business Administration  
Master in Business Administration with specializations in Entrepreneurship, Finance, Information Management, Pharmaceutical Marketing and Management, and Project Management  
Master in Education with specializations in Curriculum Development and Outcomes Assessment, Education Technology, Transformational Leadership, and eLearning Pedagogy

#### **Doctorate Degrees**

Doctorate of Science in Computer Science  
Doctorate in Education Leadership and Learning with specializations in K-12, Higher Education, Organizational Leadership, Organizational Psychology, and Health Care Administration

Independent online classes (10-weeks in duration) start on alternating Tuesday's every month. Aspen plans to shift all students to 8-week course lengths by the fall of 2016.

#### **Sales and Marketing**

Following Mr. Michael Mathews becoming Aspen's Chief Executive Officer in May 2011, Mr. Mathews and his team has made significant changes to Aspen's sales and marketing program, specifically spending a significant amount of time, money and resources on our proprietary Internet marketing program. What is unique about Aspen's Internet marketing program is that we have no plans in the near future to utilize third-party online lead generation companies to attract prospective students. To our knowledge, most if not all for-profit online universities utilize multiple third-party online lead generation companies to obtain a meaningful percentage of their prospective student leads. Aspen's executive officers have many years of expertise in the online lead generation and Internet advertising industry, which for the foreseeable future will allow Aspen to cost-effectively drive all prospective student leads internally. This is a competitive advantage for Aspen because third-party leads are typically unbranded and non-exclusive (lead generation firms typically sell prospective student leads to multiple universities), therefore the conversion rate for those leads tends to be appreciably lower than internally generated, Aspen branded, proprietary leads.

#### **Employees**

As of July 12, 2016, we had 70 full-time employees, and 101 adjunct professors, of which 61% are doctorally prepared. None of our employees are parties to any collective bargaining arrangement. We believe our relationships with our employees are good.

#### **Corporate History**

Aspen Group was incorporated on February 23, 2010 in Florida as a home improvement company intending to develop products and sell them on a wholesale basis to home improvement retailers. In June 2011, Aspen Group changed its name to Elite Nutritional Brands, Inc. and terminated all operations. In February 2012, Aspen Group reincorporated in Delaware under the name Aspen Group, Inc.

Aspen University was incorporated on September 30, 2004 in Delaware. Its predecessor was a Delaware limited liability company organized in Delaware in 1999. In May 2011, Aspen merged with Education Growth Corporation, or EGC. Aspen survived the EGC merger. EGC was a start-up company controlled by Mr. Michael Mathews. Mr. Mathews became Aspen's Chief Executive Officer upon closing the EGC merger. On March 13, 2012, Aspen Group acquired Aspen in the Reverse Merger.

## Regulation

Students attending Aspen finance their education through a combination of individual resources, corporate reimbursement programs and Title IV Programs participation. The discussion which follows outlines the extensive regulations that affect our business. Complying with these regulations entails significant effort from our executives and other employees. Our Chief Academic Officer has two unique roles: overseeing our accreditation and regulatory compliance and seeking to improve our academic performance. Accreditation and regulatory compliance is also expensive. Beyond the internal costs, we began using education regulatory counsel in the summer of 2011, as our current Chief Executive Officer focused his attention on compliance. Aspen participates in the federal student financial aid programs authorized under Title IV. For the fiscal year ended April 30, 2016, approximately 28% of our cash-basis revenues for eligible tuition and fees were derived from the Title IV Programs. In connection with a student's receipt of Title IV Program funds, we are subject to extensive regulation by the DOE, state education agencies and the DEAC. In particular, the Title IV Programs, and the regulations issued thereunder by the DOE, subject us to significant regulatory scrutiny in the form of numerous standards that we must satisfy. To participate in Title IV Programs, a school must, among other things, be:

- authorized to offer its programs of instruction by the applicable state education agencies in the states in which it is physically located.
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Individual state laws establish standards in areas such as instruction, qualifications of faculty, administrative procedures, marketing, recruiting, financial operations, and other operational matters, some of which are different than the standards prescribed by the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Laws in some states limit schools' ability to offer educational programs and award degrees to residents of those states. Some states also prescribe financial regulations that are different from those of the DOE, and many require the posting of surety bonds. In non-SARA states, regulatory requirements for online education vary.







Although Aspen believes it will meet the minimum composite score necessary to meet the Financial Ratio standard for fiscal year 201

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Code of Conduct Related to Student Loans. As part of an institution's program participation agreement with the DOE, HEOA requires that institutions that participate in Title IV Programs adopt a code of conduct pertinent to student loans. For financial aid office or other employees who have responsibility related to education loans, the code must forbid, with limited exceptions, gifts, consulting arrangements with lenders, and advisory board compensation other than reasonable expense reimbursement. The code also must ban revenue-sharing arrangements, "opportunity pools" that lenders offer in exchange for certain promises, and staffing assistance from lenders. The institution must post the code prominently on its website and ensure that its officers, employees, and agents who have financial aid responsibilities are informed annually of the code's provisions. Aspen has adopted a code of conduct under the HEOA which is posted on its website. In addition to the code of conduct requirements that apply to institutions, HEOA contains provisions that apply to private lenders, prohibiting such lenders from engaging in certain activities as they interact with institutions. Failure to comply with the code of conduct provision could result in termination of our participation in Title IV Programs, limitations on participation in Title IV Programs, or financial penalties.

Misrepresentation. The Higher Education Act and current regulations authorize the DOE to take action against an institution that participates in Title IV Programs for any "substantial misrepresentation" made by that institution regarding the nature of its educational program, its financial charges, or the employability of its graduates. Effective July 1, 2011, DOE regulations expanded the definition of "substantial misrepresentation" to cover additional representatives of the institution and additional substantive areas and expands the parties to whom a substantial misrepresentation cannot be made. The regulations also augment the actions the DOE may take if it determines that an institution has engaged in substantial misrepresentation. Under the final regulations, the DOE may revoke an institution's program participation agreement, impose limitations on an institution's participation in Title IV Programs, or initiate proceedings to impose a fine or to limit, suspend, or terminate the institution's participation in Title IV Programs.

Credit Hours. The Higher Education Act and current regulations use the term "credit hour" to define an eligible program and an academic year and to determine enrollment status and the amount of Title IV Program aid an institution may disburse during a payment period. Recently, both Congress and the DOE have increased their focus on institutions' policies for awarding credit hours. DOE regulations define the term "credit hour" in terms of a certain amount of time in class and outside class, or an equivalent amount of work. The regulations also require accrediting agencies to review the reliability and accuracy of an institution's credit hour assignments. If an accreditor identifies systematic or significant noncompliance in one or more of an institution's programs, the accreditor must notify the Secretary of Education. If the DOE determines that an institution is out of compliance with the credit hour definition, the DOE could require the institution to repay the incorrectly awarded amounts of Title IV Program aid. In addition, if the DOE determines that an institution has significantly overstated the amount of credit hours assigned to a program, the DOE may fine the institution, or limit, suspend, or terminate its participation in the Title IV Programs.

Compliance Reviews. We are subject to announced and unannounced compliance reviews and audits by various external agencies, including the DOE, its Office of Inspector General, state licensing agencies, and accrediting agencies. As part of the DOE's ongoing monitoring of institutions' administration of Title IV Programs, the Higher Education Act and DOE regulations require institutions to submit annually a compliance audit conducted by an independent certified public accountant in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and applicable audit standards of the DOE. These auditing standards differ from those followed in the audit of our financial statements contained herein. In addition, to enable the DOE to make a determination of financial responsibility, institutions must annually submit audited financial statements prepared in accordance with DOE regulations. Furthermore, the DOE regularly conducts program reviews of education institutions that are participating in the Title IV Programs, and the Office of Inspector General of the DOE regularly conducts audits and investigations of such institutions. In August 2010, the Secretary of Education announced in a letter to several members of Congress that, in part in response to recent allegations against proprietary institutions of deceptive trade practices and noncompliance with DOE regulations, the DOE planned to strengthen its oversight of Title IV Programs through, among other approaches, increasing the number of program reviews.

Potential Effect of Regulatory Violations. If we fail to comply with the regulatory standards governing Title IV Programs, the DOE could impose one or more sanctions, including transferring Aspen to the reimbursement or cash monitoring system of payment, seeking to require repayment of certain Title IV Program funds, requiring Aspen to post a letter of credit in favor of the DOE as a condition for continued Title IV certification, taking emergency action against us, referring the matter for criminal prosecution or initiating proceedings to impose a fine or to limit, condition, suspend or terminate our participation in Title IV Programs.

We also may be subject, from time to time, to complaints and lawsuits relating to regulatory compliance brought not only by our regulatory agency . . .







In addition, during the period of provisional certification, the institution must comply with any additional conditions included in its program participation agreement. If the DOE determines that a provisionally certified institution is unable to mee



DEAC recently revised its policy pertinent to changes in legal status, control, ownership, or management. The policy revisions add definitions of the situations under which DEAC considers a change in legal status, control, ownership, or management to occur, describe the procedures that an institution must follow to obtain approval, and clarify the options available to DEAC. Among other revisions, DEAC defines a change of ownership and control as a change in the ability to direct or cause the direction of the actions of an institution, including, for example, the sale of a controlling interest in an institution's corporate parent. Failure to obtain prior approval of a change of ownership and control will result in withdrawal of accreditation under the new ownership. The policy also requires institutions to undergo a post-change examination within six months of a change of ownership. The revisions clarify that after such examination, DEAC will make a final decision whether to continue the institution's accreditation. In addition, if an institution is acquired by an entity that owns or operates other distance education institutions, the amendments clarify that any such institutions must obtain DEAC approval within two years of the change of ownership or accreditation may be withdrawn. The policy revisions define a change of management as the replacement of the senior level executive of the institution, for example the President or Chief Executive Officer. In addition, the revisions clarify that before undertaking such a change, an institution must seek DEAC's prior approval by explaining when the change will occur, the rationale for the change, the executive's job description, the new executive's qualifications, and how the change will affect the institution's ability to comply with all DEAC accreditation standards. DEAC may take any action it deems appropriate in response to a change of management request. The Reverse Merger was considered a change of control event under DEAC's policy. In February 2012, DEAC informed Aspen that it had approved the change of ownership, with several conditions that are consistent with DEAC's change of ownership procedures and requirements. These conditions included: (1) that Aspen agree to undergo an examination visit by a committee; (2) that an updated Self-Evaluation Report be submitted four to six weeks prior to the on-site visit; (3) that Aspen submit a new Teach-Out Resolution form as soon as the Reverse Merger had closed; and (4) that Aspen provide written confirmation to DEAC by February 20, 2012 that it agreed to and would comply with the stated conditions. We provided the requested information to DEAC. The examination visit occurred in August 2012.

On September 28, 2012, the DOE approved Aspen's change of control and extended its provisional certification until September 30, 2013. On February 9, 2015, the DOE notified Aspen that it had the choice of posting a letter of credit for 25% of all Title IV funds and remain provisionally certified or post a 50% letter of credit and become permanently certified. We elected to post a 25% letter of credit and remain provisionally certified – increasing our letter of credit to \$1,122,485. In November of 2015, the DOE informed Aspen that they no longer need to post a letter of credit. It was subsequently released.

When a change of ownership resulting in a change of control occurs at a for-profit institution, the DOE applies a different set of financial tests to determine the financial responsibility of the institution in conjunction with its review and approval of the change of ownership. The institution generally is required to submit a same-day audited balance sheet reflecting the financial condition of the institution immediately following the change in ownership. The institution's same-day balance sheet must demonstrate an acid test ratio of at least 1:1, which is calculated by adding cash and cash equivalents to current accounts receivable and dividing the sum by total current liabilities (and excluding all unsecured or uncollateralized related party receivables). The same-day balance sheet must also demonstrate positive tangible net worth. If the institution does not satisfy these requirements, the DOE may condition its approval of the change of ownership on the institution's agreeing to post a letter of credit, provisional certification, and/or additional monitoring requirements, as described in the above section on Financial Responsibility. The time required for the DOE to act on a change in ownership and control application may vary substantially. As a result of the change of ownership, Aspen delivered a \$264,665 letter of credit to the DOE in accordance with the standards identified above. Thereafter, as described above, this letter of credit was increased to \$1,122,485. In November of 2015, the DOE informed Aspen that it no longer needed to post a letter of credit and released the existing letter of credit.

A change of control also could occur as a result of future transactions in which Aspen is involved. Some corporate reorganizations and some changes in the Board are examples of such transactions. Moreover, the potential adverse effects of a change of control could influence future decisions by us and our shareholders re<sup>nt</sup> and ot

**Possible Acquisitions.** In addition to the planned expansion through Aspen's new marketing program, we may expand through acquisition of related or synergistic businesses. Our internal growth is subject to monitoring and ultimately approval by the DEAC. If the DEAC finds that our growth may adversely affect our academic quality, the DEAC can request us to slow the growth and potentially withdraw accreditation and require us to re-apply for accreditation. The DOE may also impose growth restrictions on an institution, including in connection with a change in ownership and control. While acquisitions of online universities would be subject to approval by the DEAC, approval of businesses which supply services to online universities or which provide educational services and/or products may not be subject to regulatory approval or extensive regulation. An acquisition of an online university that is regionally accredited could shorten the average expected timeframe for Aspen University's degree programs to be granted regional accreditation. Having degree programs that are regionally accredited could allow Aspen to be eligible to offer degree programs that lead toward licensure, as well as provide a brand 'halo effect' that degree programs of regionally accredited institutions enjoy.

**ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS.**

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the following Risk Factors before deciding to purchase our common stock.



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**Although our management has successfully implemented a debtless education business model, it may not be successful long-term.**

Mr. Michael Mathews, our Chief Executive Officer, has developed a debtless education business model designed to substantially increase our student enrollment and reducing and/or eliminating student debt among Aspen's student body. While results to date have been as anticipated, there are no assurances that this marketing campaign will continue to be successful. Among the risks are the fhnt

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**Because we rely on third party administration and hosting of learning management system software for our online classroom, if that third party were to cease to do business or alter its business practices and services, it could have an adverse impact on our ability to operate.**

Beginning in June 2014, our online classroom began employing the Desire2Learn learning management system named Brightspace. The system is a web-based portal that stores and delivers course content, provides interactive communication between students and faculty, and supplies online evaluation tools. We rely on third parties to host and help with the administration of it. We further rely on third parties, the D2L agreement and our internal staff for ongoing support and customization and integration of the system with the rest of our technology infrastructure. If D2L were unable or unwilling to continue to provide us with service, we may have difficulty maintaining the software required for our online classroom or updating it for future technological changes. Any failure to maintain our online classroom would have an adverse impact on our operations, damage our reputation and limit our ability to attract and retain students.

**Because the personal information that we or our vendors collect may be vulnerable to breach, theft or loss, any of these factors could adversely affect our reputation and operations.**

Possession and use of personal information in our operations subjects us to risks and costs that could harm our business. Aspen uses a third party to collect and retain large amounts of personal information regarding our students and their families, including social security numbers, tax return information, personal and family financial data and credit card numbers. We also collect and maintain personal information of our employees in the ordinary course of our business. Some of this personal information is held and managed by certain of our vendors. Errors in the storage, use or transmission of personal information could result in a breach of student or employee privacy. Possession and use of personal information in our operations also subjects us to legislative and regulatory burdens that could require notification of data breaches, restrict our use of personal information, and cause us to lose our certification to participate in the Title IV Programs. We cannot guarantee that there will not be a breach, loss or theft of personal information that we store or our third parties store. A breach, theft or loss of personal information regarding our students and their families or our employees that is held by us or our vendors could have a material adverse effect on our reputation and results of operations and result in liability under state and federal privacy statutes and legal or administrative actions by state attorneys general, private litigants, and federal regulators any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**Because the CAN-SPAM Act imposes certain obligations on the senders of commercial emails, it could adversely impact our ability to market Aspen's educational services, and otherwise increase the costs of our business.**

The Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act of 2003, or the CAN-SPAM Act, establishes requirements for commercial email and specifies penalties for commercial email that violates the CAN-SPAM Act. In addition, the CAN-SPAM Act gives consumers the right to require third parties to stop sending them commercial email.

The CAN-SPAM Act covers email sent for the primary purpose of advertising or promoting a commercial product, service, or Internet website. The Federal Trade Commission, a federal consumer protection agency, is primarily responsible for enforcing the CAN-SPAM Act, and the Department of Justice, other federal agencies, State Attorneys General, and Internet service providers also have authority to enforce certain of its provisions.

The CAN-SPAM Act's main provisions include:

- Prohibiting false or misleading email header information;
- Prohibiting the use of deceptive subject lines;
- Ensuring that recipients may, for at least 30 days after an email is sent, opt out of receiving future commercial email messages from the sender;
- Requiring that commercial email be identified as a solicitation or advertisement unless the recipient affirmatively permitted the message; and
- Requiring that the sender include a valid postal address in the email message.

The CAN-SPAM Act also prohibits unlawful acquisition of email addresses, such as through directory harvesting and transmission of commercial emails by unauthorized means, such as through relaying messages with the intent to deceive recipients as to the origin of such messages.





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Further, due to scrutiny of the sector, legislative proposals have been introduced in Congress that would heighten the requirements of the 90/10 rule, including proposals that would reduce the 90% maximum under the rule to 85% and/or prohibit tuition derived from military benefit programs to be included in the 85% portion.

**If our competitors are subject to further regulatory claims and adverse publicity, it may affect our industry and reduce our future enrollment.**

We are one of a number of for-profit institutions serving the postsecondary education market. In recent years, regulatory investigations and civil litigation have been commenced against several companies that own for-profit educational institutions. These investigations and lawsuits have alleged, among other things, deceptive trade practices and non-compliance with DOE regulations. These allegations have attracted adverse media coverage and have been the subject of federal and state legislative hearings. Although the media, regulatory and legislative focus has been primarily on the allegations made against specific companies, broader allegations against the overall for-profit school sector may negatively affect public perceptions of other for-profit educational institutions, including Aspen. In addition, in recent years, reports on student lending practices of various lending institutions and schools, including for-profit schools, and investigations by a number of state attorneys general, Congress and governmental agencies have led to adverse media coverage of postsecondary education. For example a large competitor, Corinthian Colleges, sold or shut down its schools due to substantial regulatory investigations and DOE actions. Other significant school groups have likewise been closed in light of significant DOE actions. Adverse media coverage regarding other companies in the for-profit school sector or regarding us directly could damage our reputation, could result in lower enrollments, revenues and operating profit, and could have a negative impact on our stock price. Such allegations could also result in increased scrutiny and regulation by the DOE, Congress, accrediting bodies, state legislatures or other governmental authorities with respect to all for-profit institutions, including us.

**Due to new regulations or congressional action or reduction in funding for Title IV Programs, our future enrollment may be reduced and costs of compliance increased.**

The Higher Education Act comes up for reauthorization by Congress approximately every five to six years. When Congress does not act on

complete a number of actions that would lower tuition







**If we fail to demonstrate “administrative capability,” we may lose eligibility to participate in Title IV Programs.**

DOE regulations specify extensive criteria an institution must satisfy to establish that it has the requisite “administrative capability” to participate in Title IV Programs. If an institution fails to satisfy any of these criteria or comply with any other DOE regulations, the DOE may require the repayment of Title IV funds, transfer the institution from the “advance” system of payment of Title IV funds to cash monitoring status or to the “reimbursement” system of payment, place the institution on provisional certification status, or commence a proceeding to impose a fine or to limit, suspend or terminate the participation of the institution in Title IV Programs. If we are found not to have satisfied the DOE’s “administrative capability” requirements we could be limited in our access to, or lose, Title IV Program funding, which would limit our potential for growth and adversely affect our enrollment, revenues and results of operations.

**Because we rely on a third party to administer our participation in Title IV Programs, its failure to comply with applicable regulations could cause us to lose our eligibility to participate in Title IV Programs.**

We have been eligible to participate in Title IV Programs for a relatively short time, and we have not developed the internal capacity to handle without third-party assistance the complex administration of participation in Title IV Programs. A third party assists us with administration of our participation in Title IV Programs, and if it does not comply with applicable regulations, we may be liable for its actions and we could lose our eligibility to participate in Title IV Programs. In addition, if it is no longer able to provide the services to us, we may not be able to replace it in a timely or cost-efficient manner, or at all, and we could lose our ability to comply with the requirements of Title IV Programs, which would limit our potential for growth and adversely affect our enrollment, revenues and results of operation.

**If we pay impermissible commissions, bonuses or other incentive payments to individuals involved in recruiting, admissions or financial aid activities, we will be subject to sanctions.**

A school participating in Title IV Programs may not provide any commission, bonus or other incentive payment based, directly or indirectly, on success in enrolling students or securing financial aid to any person involved in student recruiting or admission activities or in making decisions regarding the awarding of Title IV Program funds. If we pay a bonus, commission, or other incentive payment in violation of applicable DOE rules, we could be subject to sanctions, which could have a material adverse effect on our business. Effective July 1, 2011, the DOE abolished 12 safe harbors that described permissible arrangements under the incentive payment regulation. Abolition of the safe harbors and other aspects of the current regulation may create uncertainty about what constitutes impermissible incentive payments. The modified incentive payment rule and related uncertainty as to how it will be interpreted also may influence our approach, or limit our alternatives, with respect to employment policies and practices and consequently may affect negatively our ability to recruit and retain employees, and as a result our business could be materially and adversely affected.

In addition, the General Accounting Office, or the GAO, has issued a report critical of the DOE’s enforcement of the incentive payment rule, and the DOE has undertaken to increase its enforcement efforts. If the DOE determines that an institution violated the incentive payment rule, it may require the institution to modify its payment arrangements to the DOE’s satisfaction. The DOE may also fine the institution or initiate action to limit, suspend, or terminate the institution’s participation in the Title IV Programs. The DOE may also seek to recover Title IV funds disbursed in connection with the prohibited incentive payments. In addition, third parties may file “qui tam” or “whistleblower” suits on behalf of the DOE alleging violation of the incentive payment provision. Such suits may prompt DOE investigations. Particularly in light of the uncertainty surrounding the new incentive payment rule, the existence of, the costs of responding to, and the outcome of, qui tam or whistleblower suits or DOE investigations could have a material adverse effect on our reputation causing our enrollments to decline and could cause us to incur costs that are material to our business, among other things. As a result, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

**If our student loan default rates are too high, we may lose eligibility to participate in Title IV Programs.**

DOE regulations provide that an institution’s participation in Title IV Programs ends when historical default rates reach a certain level in a single year or for a number of years. Because of our limited experience enrolling students who are participating in these programs, we have limited historical default rate information. Relatively few students are expected to enter the repayment phase in the near term, which could result in defaults by a few students having a relatively large impact on our default rate. If Aspen loses its eligibility to participate in Title IV Programs because of high student loan default rates, our students would no longer be eligible to use Title IV Program funds in our institution, which would significantly reduce our enrollments and revenues and have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.







In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company's securities, securities class action litigation has often been instituted. A securities class action suit against us could result in substantial costs and divert our management's time and attention, which would otherwise be used to benefit our business.

**Because we may issue preferred stock without the approval of our shareholders and have other anti-takeover defenses, it may be more difficult for a third party to acquire us and could depress our stock price.**

Our Board may issue, without a vote of our shareholders, one or more additional series of preferred stock that have more than one vote per share. This could permit our Board to issue preferred stock to investors who support us and our management and give effective control of our business to our management. Additionally, issuance of preferred stock could block an acquisition resulting in both a drop in our stock price and a decline in interest of our common stock. This could make it more difficult for shareholders to sell their common stock. This could also cause the market price of our common stock shares to drop significantly, even if our business is performing well.

**An investment in our common stock may be diluted in the future as a result of the issuance of additional securities.**

If we need to raise additional capital to meet our working capital needs, we expect to issue additional shares of common stock or securities convertible, exchangeable or exercisable into common stock from time to time, which could result in substantial dilution to investors. Investors should anticipate being substantially diluted based upon the current condition of the capital and credit markets and their impact on small companies.

**Because we m**



On February 11, 2013, HEMG and Mr. Spada sued the Company, certain senior management members and our directors in state court in New York seeking damages arising principally from (i) allegedly false and misleading statements in the filings with the SEC and the DOE where the Company disclosed that HEMG and Mr. Spada borrowed \$2.2 million without board authority, (ii) the alleged breach of an April 2012 agreement whereby the Company had agreed, subject to numerous conditions and time limitations, to purchase certain shares of the Company from HEMG, and (iii) alleged diminution to the value of HEMG's shares of the Company due to Mr. Spada's disagreement with certain business transactions the Company engaged in, all with Board approval. On November 8, 2013, the state court in New York granted the Company's motion to dismiss all of the claims. On December 10, 2013, the Company filed a series of counterclaims against HEMG and Mr. Spada in state court of New York. By decision and order dated August 4, 2014, the New York court denied HEMG and Spada's motion to dismiss the fraud counterclaim the Company asserted against them.

While the Company has been advised by its counsel that HEMG's and Spada's claims in the New York lawsuit is baseless, the Company cannot provide any assurance as to the ultimate outcome of the case. Defending the lawsuit will be expensive and will require the expenditure of time which could otherwise be spent on the Company's business. While unlikely, if Mr. Spada's and HEMG's claims in the New York litigation were to be successful, the damages the Company could pay could potentially be material.

On October 15, 2015, HEMG filed bankruptcy pursuant to Chapter 7. As a result, the remaining claims and Aspen's counterclaims in the New York lawsuit are currently stayed.

On August 13, 2015, a former employee filed a complaint against the Company in the United States District Court, District of Arizona, for breach of contract claiming that Plaintiff was terminated for "Cause" when no cause existed. The Plaintiff was seeking payments purportedly due under her employment agreement, including severance pay, bonuses, value of lost benefits, and the loss of the value of her stock options. The Company filed an answer to the complaint by the September 8, 2015 deadline. This litigation has been settled and dismissed.

#### **ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES.**

Not applicable.

## PART II

### ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES.

Our stock trades on the OTCQB, under the symbol "ASPU." The last reported sale price of Aspen's common stock as reported by the OTCQB on July 26, 2016 was \$0.14. As of that date, we had 229 record holders. A substantially greater number of holders of our common stock are "street name" or beneficial holders, whose shares are held of record by banks, brokers, and other financial institutions.

The following table provides the high and low bid price information for our common stock. The prices reflect inter-dealer prices, without retail mark-up, mark-down or commission and does not necessarily represent actual transactions. Our common stock does not trade on a regular basis.

Year	Period Ended	Prices	
		High (\$)	Low (\$)
Fiscal 2016	April 30	0.19	0.10
	January 31	0.20	0.10
	October 31	0.18	0.11
	July 31	0.24	0.09
Fiscal 2015	April 30	0.27	0.17
	January 31	0.29	0.11
	October 31	0.39	0.12
	July 31	0.17	0.10

#### Dividend Policy

We have not paid cash dividends on our common stock and do not plan to pay such dividends in the foreseeable future. Our Board will determine our future dividend policy on the basis of many factors, including results of operations, capital requirements, and general business conditions.

#### Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities

None

#### Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

The information required by this item with respect to our equity compensation plans is incorporated by reference to our Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days of the fiscal year ended April 30, 2016.

### ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA.

Not applicable.



**ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.**

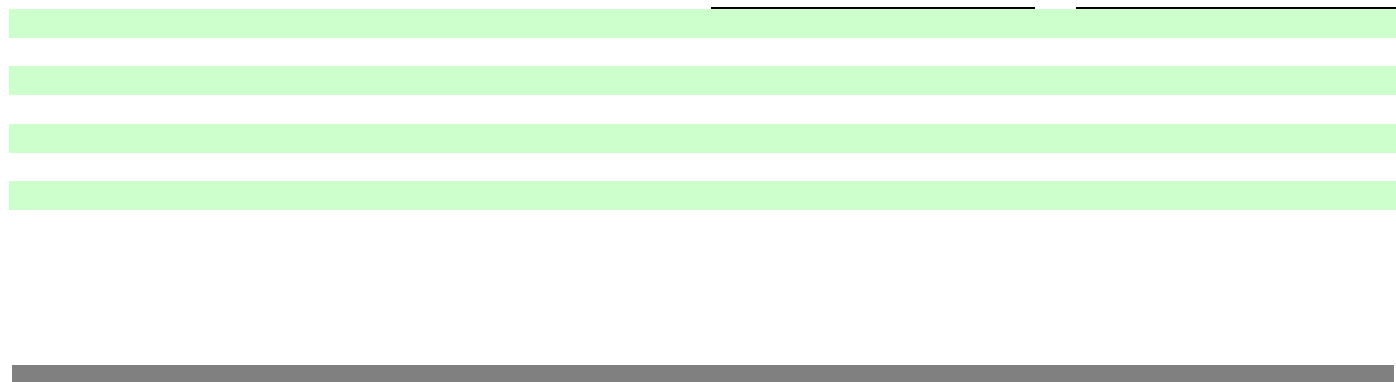
You should read the following discussion in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements, which are included elsewhere in this Form 10-K. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations contain forward-looking statements that reflect our plans, estimates, and beliefs. Our actual results could differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to these differences include those discussed in the Risk Factors contained herein.

All references to “we,” “our” and “us” refer to Aspen Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries (including Aspen), unless the context otherwise indicates. In referring to academic matters, these words refer solely to Aspen University.

**Company Overview**

Founded in 1987, Aspen’s mission is to offer any motivated college-worthy student the opportunity to receive a high quality, responsibly priced distance-learning education for the purpose of achieving sustainable economic and social benefits for themselves and their families. Aspen is dedicated to providing the highest quality education experiences taught by top-tier professors - 61% of our adjunct professors hold doctorate degrees.

Because we believe higher education should be a catalyst to our students’ long-term economic success, we exert financial prudence by offering affordable tuition that is one of the greatest values in online higher education. In March 2014, Aspen University unveiled a initiative to our





Revenue per Enrollment (RPE)

The Revenue per Enrollment takes each quarterly cohort of new degree-seeking student enrollments, and measures the amount of earned revenue including tuition and fees to determine the average RPE for the cohort measured. For the later periods of a cohort, in particular students four years or older, we have used reasonable projections based off of historical results to determine the amount of revenue we will earn in later periods of the cohort.

We created the reporting to track the CPE and RPE starting in 2012 and can accurately predict the CPE and RPE for each new student cohort. Our current CPE/RPE Marketing Efficiency Ratio is reflected in the below table.

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## **Cost of Revenues (exclusive of amortization)**

The Company's cost of revenues consists of instructional costs and services and marketing and promotional costs.

### **Instructional Costs and Services**

Instructional costs and services for the 2016 Period rose to \$1,730,110 from \$1,110,518 for the 2015 Period, an increase of \$619,592 or 56%. As student enrollment levels continue to rise, Aspen anticipates the growth rate in instructional costs and services to lag that of overall revenue growth as a result of the Company commencing in early-2016 with a full-time faculty conversion model which saves approximately \$50,000 per year for each adjunct faculty member that is converted to full-time status. Depending upon how successful Aspen is in converting several faculty members to full-time status, we estimate annualized savings of over \$500,000.

### **Marketing and Promotional**

Marketing and promotional costs for the 2016 Period were \$1,856,918 compared to \$1,065,812 for the 2015 Period, an increase of \$791,106 or 74%. The Company expects marketing and promotional costs to rise in future periods given the planned spend rate increase to an average of \$180,000 per month beginning in August 2016.

Gross Profit rose to 51% of revenues or \$4,316,408 for the 2016 Period from 49% of revenues or \$2,560,478 for the 2015 Period.

## **Costs and Expenses**

### **General and Administrative**

General and administrative costs for the 2016 Period were \$6,403,708 compared to \$5,924,263 during the 2015 Period, an increase of \$479,445 or 8%. This increase reflects higher salary costs related to expanding the call center staff as well as several supporting academic and operational positions. The Company expects G&A increases to continue to materially decline on a percentage basis relative to revenue. For example, G&A as a percentage of revenue declined from 113% of revenue in the 2015 Period to 76% of revenue in the 2016 period. G&A as a percentage of revenue is forecasted to decline to below 50% over the next 24 months.

### **Depreciation and Amortization**

Depreciation and amortization costs for the 2016 Period rose to \$598,303 from \$528,496 for the 2015 Period, an increase of \$69,807 or 13%.

### **Other Income (Expense)**

Other income for the 2016 Period increased to \$9,985 from \$9,196 in the 2015 Period, an increase of \$789 or 8.58%. Interest expense decreased from \$421,653 to \$121,320, a decrease of \$300,333 or 71%.

### **Income Taxes**

Income taxes expense (benefit) for the comparable years was \$0 as Aspen Group experienced operating losses in both periods. As management made a full valuation allowance against the deferred tax assets stemming from these losses, there was no tax benefit recorded in the statement of operations in both periods.

### **Net Loss**

Net loss for 2016 Period was (\$2,246,705) as compared to (\$4,268,288) for the 2015 Period, a decrease in the loss of \$2,021,583 or approximately 47%. Contributing to this lower loss was the increase in revenues in the 2016 period growing at a higher rate than the increase of costs. The Company forecasts to achieve positive Net Income before the end of the 2017 fiscal year.

For the Quarter Ended April 30, 2016 Compared with the Quarter Ended April 30, 2015

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On January 15, 2014, a warrant exercise offering was completed whereby 4,231,840 warrants were exercised at an exercise price of \$0.19 per warrant. The total proceeds received were \$804,049 and since the exercise price was discounted from the stated prices of either \$0.50 or \$0.3325. Related to this, additional 5,178,947 new warrants were issued at \$0.19 per warrant as part of a price protection agreement with two investors.

On March 10, 2014, several members of the Board of Directors invested \$600,000 in exchange for 3,157,895 shares of common stock and 3,157,895 warrants at \$0.19 per share.

On July 29, 2014, in the first part of a two part private placement offering, seven accredited investors, including the Company's Chief Financial Officer, paid a total of \$1,631,500 in exchange for 10,525,809 shares of common stock and 5,262,907 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.19 per share. Aspen reimbursed expenses in total of \$75,000 related to this offering. As a result of this private placement, on July 31, 2014, Aspen issued 3,473,259 shares of common stock to prior investors who had price protection on their investments, issued 2,662,139 warrants to a prior investor who had price protection on their investment and reduced the exercise and conversion price on 14,451,613 outstanding warrants and its outstanding Debenture to \$0.155.

On September 4, 2014, Aspen raised \$3,766,325 from the sale of 24,298,877 shares of common stock and 12,149,439 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.19 per share in the second part of a two part private placement offering to 15 accredited investors. The net proceeds to Aspen were approximately \$3.7 million. With the proceeds from this offering, we pre-paid the full principal owed and interest due under the Debenture (described above).

In April 2015, Aspen raised \$2,268,670 closed on its o 5, Aspen 2015, Aspen 5, Aspen 5, Aspen \$2who5, Aspen 5 e on



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## Cautionary Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements

This report contains forward-looking statements including statements regarding net income for 2017, student growth, future student metrics, overall growth, revenue growth, growth in number of students in monthly payment plans and the anticipated results from such growth, decline in SG&A expenses, or success in converting several faculty members to full-time status and liquidity. All statements other than statements of historical facts contained in this report, including statements regarding our future financial position, liquidity, business strategy and plans and objectives of management for future operations, are forward-looking statements. The words "believe," "may," "estimate," "continue," "anticipate," "intend," "should," "plan," "could," "target," "potential," "is likely," "will," "expect" and similar expressions, as they relate to us, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. ~~W~~ ~~t~~ ~~g~~ ~~i~~ ~~l~~ ~~a~~ ~~r~~



Our internal control over financial reporting is a process designed under the supervision of our Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of our financial statements for external reporting purposes in accordance with GAAP. Internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of our assets; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and that receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and directors; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may n ~~ia~~ve

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**PART IV**

**ITEM 15. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES.**

(a) Documents filed as part of the report.

(1) Financial Statements. See Index to Consolidated Financial Statements, which appears on page I

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

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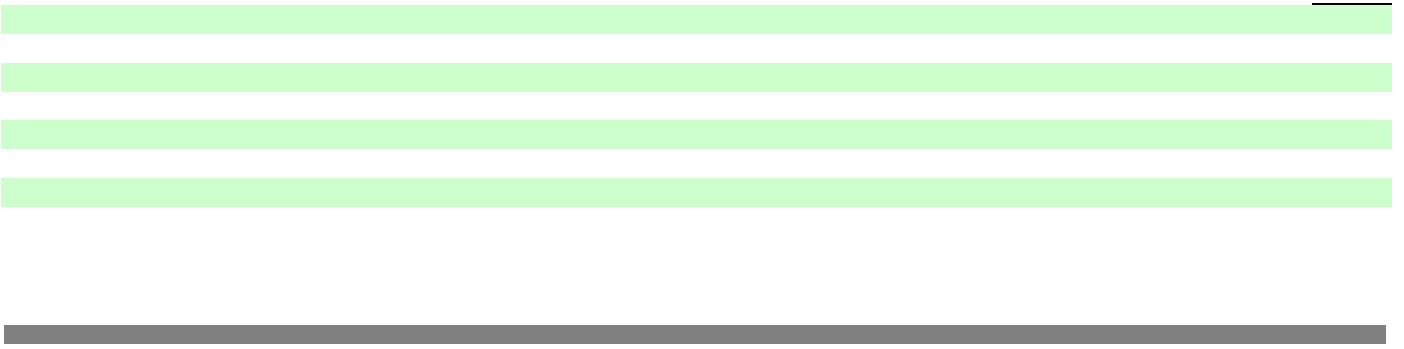
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**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of:  
Aspen Group, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Aspen Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries as of April 30, 2016 and 2015, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the two years in the period ended April 30, 2016. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall consolidated financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Aspen Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries as of April 30, 2016 and 2015, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the two years in the period ended April 30, 2016, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ Salberg & Company, P.A.

SALBERG & COMPANY, P.A.  
Boca Raton, Florida  
July 27, 2016

2295 NW Corporate Blvd., Suite 240 • Boca Raton, FL 33431-7328  
Phone: (561) 995-8270 • Toll Free: (866) CPA-8500 • Fax: (561) 995-1920  
www.salbergco.com • info@salbergco.com  
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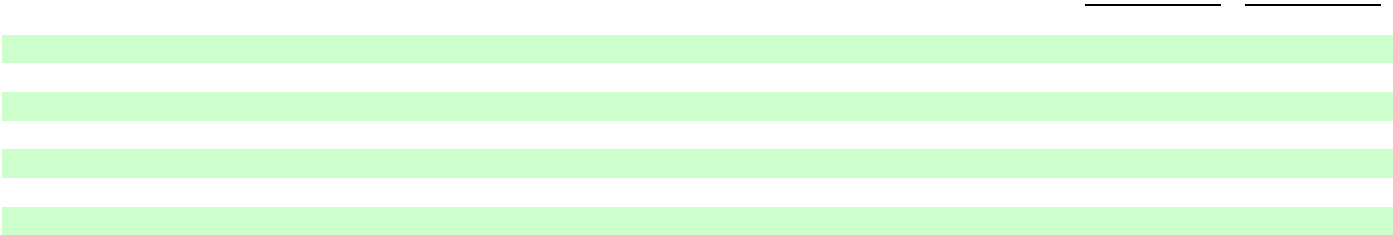


**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

	<u>April 30,</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>April 30,</u> <u>2015</u>
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 783,796	\$ 2,159,463
Restricted cash	—	1,122,485
Accounts receivable, net of allowance of \$449,946 and \$279,453, respectively	2,179,852	1,058,339
Prepaid expenses	123,055	121,594
Total current assets	<u>3,086,703</u>	<u>4,461,881</u>
Property and equipment:		
Call center equipment	79,199	132,798
Computer and office equipment	67,773	78,626
Furniture and fixtures	114,964	42,698
Library (online)	—	100,000
Software	2,567,383	2,244,802
	<u>2,829,319</u>	<u>2,598,924</u>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(1,680,687)</u>	<u>(1,387,876)</u>
Total property and equipment, net	1,148,632	1,211,048
Courseware, net	194,932	173,311
Accounts receivable, secured - related party, net of allowance of \$625,963, and \$625,963, respectively	45,329	45,329
Other assets	31,175	26,679
Total assets	<u>\$ 4,506,771</u>	<u>\$ 5,918,248</u>

(Continued)

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



**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

For the Years Ended  
April 30,

	2016	2015
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Revenues	\$ 8,453,669	\$ 5,225,761
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Operating expenses		
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**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (CONTINUED)**

	For the Years Ended	
	April 30,	
	2016	2015
<b>Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:</b>		
Cash paid for interest	\$ 104,326	\$ 240,264
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ —	\$ —
<b>Supplemental disclosure of non-cash investing and financing activities</b>		
Common stock issued for services	\$ 50,400	\$ —
Common stock issued from conversion of notes	\$ 302,311	\$ 100,000

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

**ASPEN**



**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**April 30, 2016 and 2015**

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. The most significant estimates and assumptions are discussed in Note 2.





**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**April 30, 2016 and 2015**

**Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts Receivable**

All students are required to select both a primary and secondary payment option with respect to amounts due to Aspen for tuition, fees and other expenses. The most common payment option for Aspen's students is personal funds or payment made on their behalf by an employer. In instances where a student selects financial aid as the primary payment option, he or she often selects personal cash as the secondary option. If a student who has selected financial aid as his or her primary payment option withdraws prior to the end of a course but after the date that Aspen's institutional refund period has expired, the student will have incurred the obligation to pay the full cost of the course. If the withdrawal occurs before the date at which the student has earned 100% of his or her financial aid, Aspen will have to return all or a portion of the Title IV funds to the DOE and the student will owe Aspen all amounts incurred that are in excess of the amount of financial aid that the student earned and that Aspen is entitled to retain. In this case, Aspen must collect the receivable using the student's second payment option.

For accounts receivable from students, Aspen records an allowance for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability, failure or refusal of students to make required payments, which includes the recovery of financial aid funds advanced to a student for amounts in excess of the student's cost of tuition and related fees. Aspen determines the adequacy of its allowance for doubtful accounts using a general reserve method based on an analysis of its historical bad debt experience, current economic trends, and the aging of the accounts receivable and student status. Aspen applies reserves to its receivables based upon an estimate of the risk presented by the age of the receivables and student status. Aspen writes off accounts receivable balances at the time the balances are deemed uncollectible. Aspen continues to reflect accounts receivable with an offsetting allowance as long as management believes there is a reasonable possibility of their




**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**April 30, 2016 and 2015**

Costs incurred to develop internal-use software during the preliminary project stage are expensed as incurred. Internal-use software development costs are capitalized during the application development stage, which is after: (i) the preliminary project stage is completed; and (ii) management authorizes and commits to funding the project and it is probable the project will be completed and used to perform the function intended. Capitalization ceases at the point the software project is substantially complete and ready for its intended use, and after all substantial testing is completed. Upgrades and enhancements are capitalized if it is probable that those expenditures will result in additional functionality. Amortization is provided for on a straight-line basis over the expected useful life of five years of the internal-use software development costs and related upgrades and enhancements. When existing software is replaced with new software, the unamortized costs of the old software are expensed when the new software is ready for its intended use.

Leasehold improvements are amortized using the straight-line method over the shorter of the lease term or the estimated useful lives of the assets.

Upon the retirement or disposition of property and equipment, the related cost and accumulated depreciation and amortization are removed and a gain or loss is recorded in the consolidated statements of operations. Repairs and maintenance costs are expensed in the period incurred.

#### **Courseware**

The Company records the costs of courseware in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 350 "Intangibles - Goodwill and Other".

Generally, costs of courseware creation are capitalized whereas costs for upgrades and enhancements are expensed as incurred. Courseware is stated at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization is provided for on a straight-line basis over the expected useful life of five years.

#### **Long-Lived Assets**

The Company assesses potential impairment to its long-lived assets when there is evidence that events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Events and circumstances considered by the Company in determining whether the carrying value of identifiable intangible assets and other long-lived assets may not be recoverable include, but are not limited to: significant changes in performance relative to expected operating results, significant changes in the use of the assets, significant negative industry or economic trends, a significant decline in the Company's stock price for a sustained period of time, and changes in the Company's business strategy. An impairment loss is recorded when the carrying amount of the long-lived asset is not recoverable and exceeds its fair value. The carrying amount of a long-lived asset is not recoverable if it exceeds the sum of the undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use and eventual disposition of the asset. Any required impairment loss is measured as the amount by which the carrying amount of a long-lived asset exceeds fair value and is recorded as a reduction in the carrying value of the related asset and an expense to operating results.

#### **Refunds Due Students**

The Company receives Title IV funds from the Department of Education to cover tuition and living expenses. Until forwarded to the student, this amount is recorded in a current liability account called Refunds Due Students. Typically, the funds are paid to the students within two weeks.



**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**April 30, 2016 and 2015**

**General and Administrative**

General and administrative expenses include compensation of employees engaged in corporate management, finance, human resources, information technology, academic operations, compliance and other corporate functions. General and administrative expenses also include professional services fees, bad debt expense related to accounts receivable, financial aid processing costs, non-capitalizable courseware and software costs, travel and entertainment expenses and facility costs.

**Legal Expenses**

All legal cost for litigation are charged to expense as incurred.

**Income Tax**

The Company uses the asset and liability method to compute the differences between the tax basis of assets and liabilities and the related financial amounts. Valuation allowances are established, when necessary, to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount that more likely than not will be realized. The Company has deferred tax assets and liabilities that reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. Deferred tax assets are subject to periodic recoverability assessments. Realization of the deferred tax assets, net of deferred tax liabilities, is principally dependent upon achievement of projected future taxable income.

The Company records a liability for unrecognized tax benefits resulting from uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The Company accounts for uncertainty in income taxes using a two-step approach for evaluating tax positions. Step one, recognition, occurs when the Company concludes that a tax position, based solely on its technical merits, is more likely than not to be sustained upon examination. Step two, measurement, is only addressed if the position is more likely than not to be sustained. Under step two, the tax benefit is measured as the largest amount of benefit, determined on a cumulative probability basis, which is more likely than not to be realized upon ultimate settlement. The Company recognizes interest and penalties, if any, related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense.

**Stock-Based Compensation**

Stock-based compensation is measured at the fair value of the equity instrument at the time of grant and is expensed over the period of service.



**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**April 30, 2016 and 2015**

**Net Loss Per Share**

Net loss per common share is based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during each period. Options to purchase 18,126,102 and 14,426,412 common shares, warrants to purchase 23,916,272 and 28,871,757 common shares, and \$350,000 and \$650,000 of convertible debt (convertible into 907,143 and 1,207,143 common shares, respectively) were outstanding during the years ended April 30, 2016 and 2015, respectively, but were not included in the computation of diluted loss per share because the effects would have been anti-dilutive. The options, warrants and convertible debt are considered to be common stock equivalents and are only included in the calculation of diluted earnings per common share when their effect is dilutive.

**Segment Information**

The Company operates in one reportable segment as a single educational delivery operation using a core infrastructure that serves the curriculum and educational delivery needs of its online students regardless of geography. The Company's chief operating decision makers, its CEO and Chief Academic Officer, manage the Company's operations as a whole, and no revenue, expense or operating income information is evaluated by the chief operating decision makers on any component level.

**Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

Financial Accounting Standards Board, Accounting Standard Updates which are not effective until after April 30, 2016, are not expected to have a significant effect on the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations.

ASU 2014 – 09:

In June 2014, FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) No. 2014-09, “Revenue from Contracts with Customers”. The update gives entities a single comprehensive model to use in reporting information about the amount and timing of revenue resulting from contracts to provide goods or services to customers. The proposed ASU, which would apply to any entity that enters into contracts to provide goods or services, would supersede the revenue recognition requirements in Topic 605, Revenue Recognition, and most industry-specific guidance throughout the Industry Topics of the Codification. Additionally, the update would supersede some cost guidance included in Subtopic 605-35, Revenue Recognition – Construction-Type and Production-Type Contracts. The update removes inconsistencies and weaknesses in revenue requirements and provides a more robust framework for addressing revenue issues and more useful information to users of financial statements through improved disclosure requirements. In addition, the update improves comparability of revenue recognition practices across entities, industries, jurisdictions, and capital markets and simplifies the preparation of financial statements by reducing the number of requirements to which an entity must refer. The update is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, including interim periods within that reporting period. This updated guidance is not expected to have a material impact on our results of operations, cash flows or financial condition.

ASU 2015-03

In April 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2015-03, “*Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs*,” which changes the presentation of debt issuance costs in financial statements. Under this guidance such costs would be presented as a direct deduction from the related debt liability rather than as an asset. This guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2015. This ASU did not have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.



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**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**April 30, 2016 and 2015**

**Note 6. Courseware**

Courseware costs capitalized were \$90,624 and \$143,753 for the years ended April 30, 2016 and 2015 respectively. During September 2015, \$1,970,670 of fully amortized courseware was written off against the accumulated amortization. There was no expense impact to this write-off.

Courseware consisted of the following at April 30, 2016 and April 30, 2015:

	April 30, 2016	April 30, 2015
Courseware	\$ 319,267	\$ 2,247,790
Accumulated amortization	(124,335)	(2,074,479)
Courseware, net	<u>\$ 194,932</u>	<u>\$ 173,311</u>

Amortization expense of courseware for the years ended April 30, 2016 and 2015:

	For the Years Ended April 30,	
	2016	2015
Amortization Expense	\$ 69,003	\$ 79,323

The following is a schedule of estimated future amortization expense of courseware at April 30, 2016:

Year Ending April 30,	
2017	\$ 57,271
2018	49,182
2019	47,709
2020	33,867
2021	6,903
Total	<u>\$ 194,932</u>

**Note 7. Accrued Expenses**

Accrued expenses consisted of the following at April 30, 2016 and 2015:

	April 30,	
	2016	2015
Accrued compensation	\$ 91,070	\$ 95,344
Accrued Interest	71,214	57,887
Other accrued expenses	14,690	20,432
Accrued expenses	<u>\$ 176,974</u>	<u>\$ 173,663</u>

**Note 8. Loan Payable Officer – Related Party**

On June 28, 2013, the Company received \$1,000,000 as a loan from the Company's Chief Executive Officer. This loan was for a term of 6 months with an annual interest rate of 10%, payable monthly. Through various note extensions, the debt was extended to May 31, 2017. There was no accounting effect for these extensions.



**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**April 30, 2016 and 2015**

**Note 9. Convertible Notes, Convertible Notes – Related Party and Debenture Payable**

On February 25, 2012, February 27, 2012 and February 29, 2012, loans payable of \$100,000, \$50,000 and \$50,000, respectively, were converted into two-year convertible promissory notes, bearing interest of 0.19% per annum. Beginning March 31, 2012, the notes were convertible into common shares of the Company at the rate of \$1.00 per share. The Company evaluated the convertible notes and determined that, for the embedded conversion option, there was no beneficial conversion value to record as the conversion price is considered to be the fair market value of the common shares on the note issue dates. These loans (now convertible promissory notes) were originally



**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**April 30, 2016 and 2015**

Future maturities of notes payable as of April 30, 2016 are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>2016</u>




**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**April 30, 2016 and 2015**

Rent expense for the years ended April 30, 2016 and 2015



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**ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**April 30, 2016 and 2015**

**Return of Title IV Funds**

An institution participating in Title IV Programs must correctly calculate the amount of unearned Title IV Program funds that have been disbursed to students who withdraw from their educational programs before completion and must return those unearned funds in a timely manner, no later than 45 days of the date the school determines that the student has withdrawn. Under Department regulations, failure to make timely returns of Title IV Program funds for 5% or more of students sampled on the institution's annual compliance audit in either of its two most recently completed fiscal years can result in the institution having to post a letter of credit in an amount equal to 25% of its required Title IV returns during its most recently completed fiscal year. If unearned funds are not properly calculated and returned in a timely manner, an institution is also subject to monetary liabilities or an action to impose a fine or to limit, suspend or terminate its participation in Title IV Programs.

Subsequent to a program review by the Department of Education, the Company recognized that it had not fully complied with all requirements for calculating and making timely returns of Title IV funds (R2T4). In November 2013, the Company returned a total of \$102,810 of Title IV funds to the Department of Education.

**Delaware Approval to Confer Degrees**

Aspen University is a Delaware corporation. Delaware law requires an institution to obtain approval from the Delaware Department of Education ("Delaware DOE") before it may incorporate with the power to confer degrees. In July 2012, Aspen received notice from the Delaware DOE that it was granted provisional approval status effective until June 30, 2015. On April 25, 2016 the Delaware DOE informed Aspen University it was granted full approval to operate with degree-granting authority in the State of Delaware until July 1, 2020. Aspen University is authorized by the Colorado Commission on Education to operate in Colorado as a degree granting institution.

**Letter of Credit**

The Company had maintained a letter of credit under a DOE requirement, and this requirement was lifted in November of 2015 (See Note 2 "Restricted Cash").

**Note 11. Stockholders' Equity**

**Common Stock**

On June 4, 2014, a member of the Board of Directors invested \$50,000 in exchange for 263,158 shares of common stock and 263,158 warrants at \$0.19 per share. On June 24, 2014, a member of the Board of Directors and the Company's CEO each invested \$50,000 in exchange for issuing each of them 263,158 shares of common stock and 263,158 warrants at \$0.19 per share.

On July 29, 2014, as part of a private placement offering, seven accredited investors, including the Company's CFO, paid a total of \$1,631,500 in exchange for 8,587,368 shares of common stock and 8,587,368 warrants at \$0.19 per share.









ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

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## EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit #	Exhibit Description	Incorporated by Reference			Filed or Furnished Herewith
		Form	Date	Number	
3.1	Certificate of Incorporation, as amended	S-1	10/18/14	3.1	
3.2	Bylaws	8-K	3/19/12	2.7	
3.2(a)	Amendment No. 1 to Bylaws	8-K	3/12/14	3.1	
10.1	Form of Convertible Note – Mathews - \$1.00	10-Q	3/11/15	10.4	
10.2	Form of Convertible Note – Mathews - \$0.35	10-Q	3/11/15	10.5	
10.3	Promissory Note dated March 4, 2015 - Mathews	10-Q	3/11/15	10.6	
<a href="#">10.4</a>	Note Conversion Agreement – Matthews				Filed
<a href="#">10.5</a>	2012 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended*				Filed
10.6	Form of Employee Stock Option Agreement*	10-K	7/29/14	10.17	
10.7	Form of Director Stock Option Agreement	10-Q	3/11/15	10.7	
10.8	Form of Mathews Stock Option Agreement*	8-K	12/17/15	10.10	
10.9	Consulting Agreement – AEK Consulting	10-K	7/29/14	10.24	
10.9(a)	Termination of Consulting Agreement – AEK Consulting	10-K	7/28/15	10.12	
10.10	Employment Agreement dated as of May 16, 2013 – Mathews*	S-1	7/3/13	10.6	
10.10(a)	Amendment to Employment Agreement dated November 24, 2014 – Mathews*	10-K	7/28/15	10.17	
10.11	Employment Agreement dated November 24, 2014 – Wendolowski*	10-K	7/28/15	10.19	
<a href="#">10.12</a>	Employment Agreement Dated March 1, 2014 – St. Arnaud*				Filed
<a href="#">10.12(a)</a>	Amendment to Employment Agreement dated November 24, 2014 – St. Arnaud*				Filed
10.13	Employment Agreement dated November 24, 2014 – Gill*	10-K	7/28/15	10.18	
10.14	Form of Directors Indemnification Agreement	8-K/A	5/7/14	10.21	
10.15	Form of Securities Purchase Agreement – July/September 2014 Private Placement	8-K	7/30/14	10.1	
10.16	Form of Registration Rights Agreement – July/September 2014 Private Placement	8-K	7/30/14	10.2	
10.17	Form of Warrant – July/September 2014 Private Placement	8-K	7/30/14	10.3	
10.18	Letter Agreement with Warrant Holders for Reduced Exercise Price and Early Exercise 2015	10-K	7/28/15	10.20	
<a href="#">10.19</a>	Letter Agreement with Warrant Holders for Reduced Exercise Price and Early Exercise 2016				Filed
21.1	Subsidiaries	S-1	2/11/13	21.1	
<a href="#">31.1</a>	Certification of Principal Executive Officer (302)				Filed
<a href="#">31.2</a>	Certification of Principal Financial Officer (302)				Filed
<a href="#">32.1</a>	Certification of Principal Executive and Principal Financial Officer (906)				Furnished**
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document				Filed
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document				Filed
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document				Filed
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document				Filed
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document				Filed
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document				Filed

\* Represents compensatory plan of management.

\*\* This exhibit is being furnished rather than filed and shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing, in accordance with Item 601 of Regulation S-K.

**Aspen Group, Inc.**  
**224 West 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 604**  
**New York, New York 10001**

April 16, 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing to you and confirming that subject to the approval of two warrant holders exercising 4,855,487 warrants at \$0.155 per share, I will convert a \$300,000 convertible note (and approximately \$2,300 of accrued interest) presently convertible at \$1.00 per share into shares of common stock at \$0.19 per share, which is above market. This conversion must occur by April 29, 2016 and shall occur by my tendering the original note with the conversion notice duly executed. In connection with my conversion, I am acquiring the shares of common stock for investment and without a view to resale in connection with a distribution.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Michael Mathews  
Michael Mathews

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**ASPEN GROUP, INC.**  
**2012 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN, As Amended**

1. Scope of Plan; Definitions.

(a) This 2012 Equity Incentive Plan (the “Plan”) is intended to advance the interests of Aspen Group, Inc. (the “Company”) and its Related Corporations by enhancing the ability of the Company to attract and retain qualified employees, consultants, Officers and directors, by creating incentives and rewards for their contributions to the success of the Company and its Related Corporations. This Plan will provide to (a) Officers and other employees of the Company and its Related Corporations opportunities to purchase common stock (“Common Stock”) of the Company pursuant to Options granted hereunder which qualify as incentive stock options (“ISOs”) under Section 422(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the “Code”), (b) directors, Officers, employees and consultants of the Company and Related Corporations opportunities to purchase Common Stock in the Company pursuant to options granted hereunder which do not qualify as ISOs (“Non-Qualified Options”); (c) directors, Officers, employees and consultants of the Company and Related Corporations opportunities to receive shares of Common Stock of the Company which normally are subject to restrictions on sale (“Restricted Stock”); (d) directors, Officers, employees and consultants of the Company and Related Corporations opportunities to receive grants of stock appreciation rights (“SARs”); and (e) directors, Officers, employees and consultants of the Company and Related Corporations opportunities to receive grants of restricted stock units (“RSUs”). ISOs, Non-Discretionary Options and Non-Qualified Options are referred to hereafter as “Options.” Options, Restricted Stock, RSUs and SARs are sometimes referred to hereafter collectively as “Stock Rights.” Any of the Options and/or Stock Rights may in the Compensation Committee’s discretion be issued in tandem to one or more other Options and/or Stock Rights to the extent permitted by law.

(b) For purposes of the Plan, capitalized words and terms shall have the following meaning:

“Board” means the board of directors of the Company.

“Bulletin Board” shall mean the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board.

“Chairman” means the chairman of the Board.

“Change of Control” means the occurrence of any of the following events: (i) the consummation of the sale or disposition by the Company of all or substantially all of the Company’s assets in a transaction which requires shareholder approval under applicable state law; or (ii) the consummation of a merger or consolidation of the Company with any other corporation, other than a merger or consolidation which would result in the voting securities of the Company outstanding immediately prior thereto continuing to represent (either by remaining outstanding or by being converted into voting securities of the surviving entity or its parent) at least 50% of the total voting power represented by the voting securities of the Company or such surviving entity or its parent outstanding immediately after such merger or consolidation.

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“Code” shall have the meaning given to it in Section 1(a).

“Common Stock” shall have the meaning given to it in Section 1(a).

“Company” shall have the meaning given to it in Section 1(a).

“Compensation Committee” means the compensation committee of the Board, if any, which shall consist of two or more members of the Board, each of whom shall be both an “outside director” within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code and a “non-employee director” within the meaning of Rule 16b-3. All references in this Plan to the Compensation Committee shall mean the Board when (i) there is no Compensation Committee or (ii) the Board has retained the power to administer this Plan.

“Disability” shall mean the inability of an employee to perform his or her duties as a result of a physical or mental condition which is not a result of the employee's willful or wanton disregard of his or her duties.









5. Granting of Stock Rights.

(a) The date of grant of a Stock Right under the Plan will be the date specified by the Board or Compensation Committee at the time it grants the Stock Right; provided, however, that such date shall not be prior to the date on which the Board or Compensation Committee acts to approve the grant. The Board or Compensation Committee shall have the right, with the consent of the optionee, to convert an ISO granted under the Plan to a Non-Qualified Option pursuant to Section 17.

(b) The Board or Compensation Committee shall grant Stock Rights to participants that it, in its sole discretion, selects. Stock Rights shall be granted on such terms as the Board or Compensation Committee shall determine except that ISOs shall be granted on terms that comply with the Code and regulations thereunder.

(c) A SAR entitles the holder to receive, as designated by the Board or Compensation Committee, cash or shares of Common Stock, value equal to (or otherwise based on) the excess of: (a) the Fair Market Value of a specified number of shares of Common Stock at the time of exercise over (b) an exercise price established by the Board or Compensation Committee. The exercise price of each SAR granted under this Plan shall be established by the Compensation Committee or shall be determined by a method established by the Board or Compensation Committee at the time the SAR is granted, provided the exercise price shall not be less than 100% of the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock on the date of the grant of the SAR, or such higher price as is established by the Board or Compensation Committee. A SAR shall be exercisable in accordance with such terms and conditions and during such periods as may be established by the Board or Compensation Committee. Shares of Common Stock delivered pursuant to the exercise of a SAR shall be subject to such conditions, restrictions and contingencies as the Board or Compensation Committee may establish in the applicable SAR agreement or document, if any. The Board or Compensation Committee, in its

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(a) The Options and SARs shall either be fully vested and exercisable from the date of grant or shall vest and become exercisable in such installments as the Best

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laws of descent and distribution, at any time prior to the earlier of: (i) the Options' or SARs' specified expiration date or (ii) one year (except three months for an ISO) from the date of death.

(b) If the holder of an Option or SAR ceases to be employed by the Company and all Related Corporations, or a director or Director Advisor can no longer perform his duties, by reason of his Disability, any Options or SARs held by the optionee may be exercised to the extent he could have exercised it on the date of termination due to Disability until the earlier of (i) the Options' or SARs' specified expiration date or (ii) one year from the date of the termination.

12. Assignment, Transfer or Sale.

(a) No ISO granted under this Plan shall be assignable or transferable by the grantee except by will or by the laws of descent and distribution, and during the lifetime of the grantee, each ISO shall be exercisable only by him, his guardian or legal representative.

(b) Except for ISOs, all Stock Rights are transferable subject to compliance with applicable securities laws and Section 6 of this Plan.

13. Terms and Conditions of Stock Rights. Stock Rights shall be evidenced by instruments (which need not be identical) in such forms as the Board or Compensation Committee may from time to time approve. Such instruments shall conform to the terms and conditions set forth in Sections 5 through 12 hereof and may contain such other provisions as the Board or Compensation Committee deems advisable which are not inconsistent with the Plan. In granting any Stock Rights, the Board or Compensation Committee may specify that Stock Rights shall be subject to the restrictions set forth herein with respect to ISOs, or to such other termination and cancellation provisions as the Board or Compensation Committee may determine. The Board or Compensation Committee may from time to time confer authority and responsibility on one or more of its own members and/or one or more Officers of the Company to execute and deliver such instruments. The proper Officers of the Company are authorized and directed to take any and all action necessary or advisable from time to time to carry out the terms of such instruments.

14. Adjustments Upon Certain Events.

(a) Subject to any required action by the shareholders of the Company, the number of shares of Common Stock covered by each outstanding Stock Right, and the number of shares of Common Stock which have been authorized for issuance under the Plan but as to which no Stock Rights have yet been granted or which have been returned to the Plan upon cancellation or expiration of a Stock Right, as well as the price per share of Common Stock (or cash, as applicable) covered by each such outstanding Option or SAR, shall be proportionately adjusted for SARs







16. Term, Termination and Amendment.

(a) This Plan was adopted by the Board. This Plan may be approved by the Company's shareholders, which approval is required for ISOs.

(b) The Board may terminate the Plan at any time. Unless sooner terminated, the Plan shall terminate on March \_\_, 2022 [or 10 years from the date the Board adopts the Plan]. No Stock Rights may be granted under the Plan once the Plan is terminated. Termination of the Plan shall not impair rights and obligations under any Stock Right granted while the Plan is in effect, except with the written consent of the grantee.

(c) The Board at any time, and from time to time, may amend the Plan. Provided, however, except as provided in Section 14 relating to adjustments in Common Stock, no amendment shall be effective unless approved by the shareholders of the Company to the extent (i) shareholder approval is necessary to satisfy the requirements of Section 422 of the Code or (ii) required by the rules of the principal national securities exchange or trading market upon which the Company's Common Stock trades. Rights under any Stock Rights granted before amendment of the Plan shall not be impaired by any amendment of the Plan, except with the written consent of the grantee.

(d) The Board at any time, and from time to time, may amend the terms of any one or more Stock Rights; provided, however, that the rights under the Stock Right shall not be impaired by any such amendment, except with the written consent of the grantee.

17. Conversion of ISOs into Non-Qualified Options; Termination of ISOs . The Board or Compensation Committee, at the written request of any optionee, may in its discretion take such actions as may be necessary to convert such optionee's ISOs (or any installments or portions of installments thereof) that have not been exercised on the date of conversion into Non-Qualified Options at any time prior to the expiration of such ISOs, regardless of whether the optionee is an employee of the Company or a Related Corporation at the time of such conversion. Provided, however, the Board or Compensation Committee shall not reprice the Options or extend the exercise period or reduce the exercise price of the appropriate installments of such Options without the approval of the Company's shareholders. At the time of such conversion, the Board or Compensation Committee (with the consent of the optionee) may impose such conditions on the exercise of the resulting Non-Qualified Options as the Board or Compensation Committee in its discretion may determine, provided that such conditions shall not be inconsistent with this Plan. Nothing in the Plan shall be deemed to give any optionee the right to have such optionee's ISOs converted into Non-Qualified Options, and no such conversion shall occur until and unless the Board or Compensation Committee takes appropriate action. The Compensation Committee, with the consent of the optionee, may also terminate any portion of any ISO that has not been exercised at the time of such termination.

18. Application of Funds. The proceeds received by the Company from the sale of shares pursuant to Options or SARS (if cash settled) granted under the Plan shall be used for general corporate purposes.

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19. Governmental Regulations. The Company's obligation to sell and deliver shares of the Common Stock under this Plan is subject to the approval of any governmental authority required in connection with the authorization, issuance or sale of such shares.

20. Withholding of Additional Income Taxes. In connection with the granting, exercise or vesting of a Stock Right or the making of a Disqualifying Disposition the Company, in accordance with Section 3402(a) of the Code, may require the optionee to pay additional withholding taxes in respect of the amount that is considered compensation includable in such person's gross income.

To the extent that the Company is required to withhold taxes for federal income tax purposes as provide u taW ax

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(3) Breaching any duty of confidentiality including that required by the Company's insider trading guidelines then in effect;

(4) Competing with the Company;

(5) Being unavailable for consultation after leaving the Company's employment if such availability is a condition of any agreement between the Company and the grantee;

(6) Recruitment of Company personnel after termination of employment, whether such termination is voluntary or for cause;

(7) Failure to assign any invention or technology to the Company if such assignment is a condition of employment or any other agreements between the Company and the grantee; or

(8) A finding by the Board that the grantee has acted disloyally and/or against the interests of the Company.

(b) Forfeiture of Stock Rights Granted to Directors. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan, and unless otherwise provided for in a Stock Rights Agreement, all vested or unvested Stock Rights granted to directors shall be immediately forfeited at the discretion of the Board if any of the following events occur:

(1) Purchasing or selling securities of the Company in violation of the Company's insider trading guidelines then in effect;

(2) Breaching any duty of confidentiality including that required by the Company's insider trading guidelines then in effect;

(3) Competing with the Company;

(4) Recruitment of Company personnel after ceasing to be a director;

or

(5) A finding by the Board that the grantee has acted disloyally and/or against the interests of the Company.

The Company may impose other forfeiture restrictions which are more or less restrictive and require a return of profits from the sale of Common Stock as part of said forfeiture provisions if such forfeiture provisions and/or return of provisions are contained in a Stock Rights Agreement.

(c) Profits on the Sale of Certain Shares; Redemption. If any of the events specified in Section 24(a) or (b) of the Plan occur within one year from the date the grantee last performed services for the Company in the capacity for which the Stock Rights were granted (the

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“Termination Date”) (or such longer period required by any written agreement), all profits earned from the sale of the Company’s securities, including the sale of shares of common stock underlying the Stock Rights, during the two-year period commencing one year prior to the Termination Date shall be forfeited and immediately paid by the grantee to the Company. Further, in such event, the Company may at its option redeem shares of common stock acquired upon exercise of the Stock Right by ttepn

**EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

THIS EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT (the "Agreement")

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designed to preclude its executives and those of its subsidiaries from violating the federal securities laws by trading on material, non-public information or passing such information on to others in breach of any duty owed to the Company, or any third party. The Executive shall promptly execute any agreements generally distributed by the Company to its employees requiring such employees to abide by its inside information policies.

4. Compensation and Expenses.

(a) Salary. For the services of the Executive to be rendered under this Agreement, the Company shall pay the Executive an annual salary of \$200,000 (the “Base\_Salary”), less such deductions as shall be required to be withheld by applicable law and regulations payable in accordance with the Company’s customary payroll practices.

(b) Target Bonus. For each fiscal year during the Term beginning May 1st and ending April 30th of the applicable fiscal year, the Executive shall have the opportunity to earn a bonus up to 30%, 66% or 100% of her then Base Salary (the “Target Bonus”) as follows:

When the Company achieves annual Adjusted EBITDA (as defined below) at certain threshold levels (each, an “EBITDA Threshold”), the Executive shall receive an automatic cash bonus (the “Automatic Cash Bonus”) equal to a percentage of her then Base Salary, and shall receive a grant of fully vested shares of the Company’s common stock having an aggregate Fair Market Value (as such term is defined in the Company’s 2012 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended) equal to a percentage of the Executive’s then Base Salary (the “Automatic Equity Bonus”). In addition, the Executive shall be eligible to receive an additional percentage of her then Base Salary as a cash bonus (the “Discretionary Cash Bonus”) and an additional grant of fully vested shares of the Company’s common stock having an aggregate Fair Market Value equal to a percentage of the Executive’s then Base Salary (the “Discretionary Equity Bonus”) based on the Board’s determination that the Executive has achieved certain annual performance objectives established by the Board, based on the mutual agreement of the Chief Executive Officer and the Executive, at the beginning of each fiscal year.

The EBITDA Thresholds and corresponding bonus levels are set forth in the table below. For the avoidance of doubt, the Executive shall only be eligible to receive the bonuses associated with a single EBITDA Threshold; i.e. in the event the Company attains EBITDA Threshold (2), only the bonuses associated with EBITDA Threshold (2) below (and not the bonuses associated with EBITDA Threshold (1)) shall be applicable.








1.409A-1(a)(5) or otherwise. In the event all or a portion of the benefits to which the Executive was entitled pursuant to Section 5(b) hereof are subject to 409A of the Code, the Executive shall not be entitled to the benefits that are subject to Section 409A of the Code subsequent to the “applicable 2 ½ month period” (as such term is defined under Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(b)(4)(i)(A)).

(3) In the event of a Change of Control during the Term, the Executive shall be entitled to receive each of the provisions of Section 6(c)(2)(A) – (E) above except the Severance Amount shall equal to three months of the then Base Salary and the benefits under Section 6(c)(2)(E) shall continue for a three month period provided that such benefits are exempt from Section 409A of the Code by reason of Treasury Regulation 1.409A-1(a)(5) or otherwise. In the event all or a portion of the benefits under Section 6(c)(2)(E) are subject to 409A of the Code, the Executive shall not be entitled to the benefits that are subject to Section 409A of the Code subsequent to the “applicable 2 ½ month period” (as such term is defined under Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(b)(4)(i)(A)).

(4) In the event this Agreement is terminated at the end of a Term after the Company provides the Executive with notice of non-renewal and the Executive remains employed until the end of the Term, the Executive shall be entitled to the following:

(A) ~~with any other benefits~~

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methods of operation, and Student lists, Student information, solicitation leads, marketing and advertising materials, methods and manuals and forms, all of which pertain to the activities or operations of the Company, the names, home addresses and all telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of the Company's directors, employees, officers, executives, former executives, Students and former Students. Confidential Information also includes, without limitation, Confidential Information received from the Company's subsidiaries and affiliates. For purposes of this Agreement, the following will not constitute Confidential Information (i) information which is or subsequently becomes generally available to the public through no act or fault of the Company on 1) information

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18. Attorneys' Fees. In the event that there is any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement, or to the

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constitute "nonqualified deferred compensation" subject to Section 409A (e.g., payments and benefits that do not qualify as a short-term deferral or as a separation pay exception) that are provided to the Executive on account of the Executive's separation from service shall not be paid until the first payroll date to occur following the six-month anniversary of the Executive's termin" tha

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company and the Executive have executed this Agreement as of the date and year first above written.

Aspen Group, Inc.

By: /s/ Michael Mathews  
Michael Mathews  
Chief Executive Officer

Executive:

/s/ Cheri St. Arnaud  
Cheri St. Arnaud



**Exhibit A**  
**General Release Agreement**

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## TERMINA

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3. The Executive represents that he has not filed any complaints or charges against the Employer with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or with any other federal, state or local agency or court, and covenants that he will not seek to recover on any claim released in this Agreement.

4. The Executive agrees that he will not encourage or assist any of the Employer's employees to litigate claims or file administrative charges against the Employer or its past and present affiliates, officers, directors, owners, employees and agents, unless required to provide testimony or documents pursuant to a lawful subpoena or other compulsory legal process.

5. The Executive acknowledges that he is subject to non-compete and confidentiality provisions under that certain Employment Agreement between the Executive and the Employer dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2014 (the "Employment Agreement").

6. The Executive acknowledges that he has been given at least 21 days to consider this Agreement and that he has seven days from the date he executes this Agreement in which to revoke it and that this Agreement will not be effective or enforceable until after the seven-day revocation period ends without revocation by the Executive. Revocation can be made by delivery of a written notice of revocation to Michael Mathews, Chief Executive Officer at the offices of the Employer, by midnight on or before the seventh calendar day after the Executive signs the Agreement.

7. The Executive acknowledges that he has been advised to consult with an attorney of her choice with regard to this Agreement. The Executive hereby acknowledges that he understands the significance of this Agreement, and represents that the terms of this Agreement are fully understood and voluntarily accepted by her.

8. The Executive and the Employer agree that neither he nor they, nor any of their agents or representatives will disclose, disseminate and/or publicize, or cause or permit to be disclosed, disseminated or publicized, the existence of this Agreement, any of the terms of this Agreement, or any claims or allegations which the Executive believes he or they could have made or asserted against one another, specifically or generally, to any person, corporation, association or governmental agency or other entity except: (i) to the extent necessary to report income to appropriate taxing authorities; (ii) in response to an order of a court of competent jurisdiction or subpoena issued under the authority thereof; or (iii) in response to any inquiry or subpoena issued by a state or federal governmental agency; provided, however, that notice of receipt of such order or subpoena shall be faxed to Aspen Group, Inc., attention Michael Mathews (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_, and in the case of the Executive, to Gerard Wendolowski (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ within 24 hours of the receipt of such order or subpoena, so that both Executive and Employer will have the opportunity to assert what rights they have to non-disclosure prior to any response to the order, inquiry or subpoena.

9. The Executive and Employer agree to refrain from disparaging or making any unfavorable comments, in writing or orally, about either party, and in the case of the Employer, about its management, its operations, policies, or procedures and in the case as\_e as\_polic\_aici\_ the \_pols, odur" ;





**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY. THIS AGREEMENT CONTAINS A RELEASE OF ALL KNOWN AND UNKNOWN CLAIMS.**

ASPEN GROUP, INC.

By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Mathews  
Chief Executive Officer

I have carefully read this Agreement and understand that it contains a release of known and unknown claims. I acknowledge and agree to all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement. I further acknowledge that I enter into this Agreement voluntarily with a full understanding of its terms.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cheri St. Arnauld

**Exhibit B**  
**Indemnification Agreement**

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## INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT

This Indemnification Agreement (the "Agreement") is entered into as of this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2014, by and between Aspen Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and Cheri St. Arnauld (the "Indemnitee") and ~~applies to any other~~ Indemnification Agreements previously entered into between the Parties:

WHEREAS, competent and experienced persons are becoming increasingly reluctant to serve publicly-held corporations as directors, officers, or in other capacities unless they are provided with adequate ~~It, It~~ ~~equid~~ ~~ntd~~

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alternative dispute resolution mechanism, investigation, administrative hearing or any other proceeding whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, whether or not initiated prior to the Effective Date, except a proceeding initiated by an Indemnitee pursuant to Section 11 of this Agreement to enforce her rights under this Agreement.

(k) “Standard” shall mean the applicable standard of conduct set forth in Sections 145(a) and (b) of the DGCL.

2. Agreement to Serve. The Indemnitee agrees to serve as a director or officer of the Company. The Indemnitee may at any time and for any reason resign from such position (subject to any other contractual obligation or any obligation imposed by operation of law). Similarly, the Company shall have no obligation under this Agreement to continue the Indemnitee in any position with the Company.

3. Indemnification — General. The Company shall indemnify and advance Expenses to the Indemnitee as provided in this Agreement and to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law in effect on the date hereof and to such greater extent as applicable law may thereafter from time to time permit. However, no indemnification shall be made by the Company (except as ordered by a court) unless a determination has been made in the manner provided for in Section 145(d) of the DGCL and Section 9(b) herein that the Indemnitee has met the applicable Standard. The rights of the Indemnitee provided under the preceding sentence shall include, but shall not be limited to, the rights set forth in the other sections of this Agreement.

4. Third-Party Actions. The Indemnitee shall be entitled to the rights of indemnification provided in this Section 4 if, by reason of her Corporate Status, he is, or is threatened to be made, a party to any Proceeding, other than a Proceeding by or in the right of the Company. Pursuant to this Section 4, the Indemnitee shall be indemnified against Expenses (including attorneys’ fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by her in connection with such Proceeding or any claim, issue or matter therein, if (i) he acted in good faith, and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the Company’s best interests; and (ii) with respect to any criminal Proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe her conduct was unlawful. The Indemnitee shall not be entitled to indemnification in connection with any Proceeding charging improper personal benefit to the Indemnitee, whether or not involving action in her official capacity, in which he was judged liable on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received by her.

5. Direct and Derivative Actions. The Indemnitee shall be entitled to the rights of indemnification provided in this Section 5, by reason of her Corporate Status, if he is, or is threatened to be made, a party to any Proceeding brought by a shareholder directly or on behalf of the Company to procure a judgment in its favor. Pursuant to this Section, the Indemnitee shall be indemnified against Expenses actually and reasonably incurred by her or on her behalf in connection with such Proceeding if he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Company. Notwithstanding the foregoing eeing

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Proceeding as to which the Indemnitee shall have been adjudged to be liable to the Company unless the Delaware Court of Chancery or the court in which such Proceeding was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all of the circumstances of the case, the Indemnitee is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnification for such Expenses which the Delaware Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.

The Indemnitee shall not be entitled to the rights of indemnification provided in this Section 5, by reason of her corporate status, if he is, or is threatened to be made, a party to any Proceeding brought by the Company, or files any claim against the Company in a Proceeding.

6. Indemnification for Expenses of an Indemnitee. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, to the extent that the Indemnitee is, by reason of her Corporate Status, a party to and is successful, on the merits or otherwise, in any Proceeding, he shall be indemnified against all Expenses actually and reasonably incurred by her in connection therewith. If the Indemnitee is not wholly successful in such Proceeding but is successful, on the merits or otherwise, as to one or more but less than all claims, issues or matters in such Proceeding, the Company shall indemnify the Indemnitee against all Expenses actually and reasonably incurred by her or on her behalf in connection with each successfully resolved claim, issue or matter. For purposes of this Section 6 and without limitation, the termination of any claim, issue or matter in such a Proceeding by dismissal, with or without prejudice, shall be deemed to be a successful result as to such claim, issue or matter.

7. Indemnification for Expenses of a Witness. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, to the extent that the Indemnitee is, by reason of her Corporate Status, a witness in any Proceeding, he shall be indemnified against all Expenses actually and reasonably incurred by her or on her behalf in connection therewith.

8. Advancement of Expenses. The Company shall advance all reasonable Expenses incurred by or on behalf of the Indemnitee in connection with any Proceeding within 20 working days after the receipt by the Company of a statement or statements from the Indemnitee requesting such advance or advances from time to time, whether prior to or after final disposition of such Proceeding. Such statement or statements shall reasonably evidence the Expenses incurred by the Indemnitee including providing detailed invoices from attorneys and other parties (unless an advance retainer) and shall include, be preceded by or accompanied by, as the case may be, the following: (i) a written affirmation of the Indemnitee's good-faith that he has met the Standard; (ii) an undertaking by or on behalf of the Indemnitee to repay any Expenses advanced if it shall be determined that the Indemnitee did not meet the Standard or that the Indemnitee is not entitled to be indemnified against such Expenses; and (iii) a determination that the facts then known to those making the determination would not preclude indemnification under the DGCL.

The Indemnitee understands and agrees that the undertaking required by this Section 8(ii) shall be an unlimited general obligation of the Indemnitee.



9. Indemnification Procedure.

(a) To obtain indemnification under this Agreement, the Indemnitee shall submit to the Company a written request, including therein or therewith such documentation and information as is reasonably available to the Indemnitee and is reasonably necessary to determine whether and to what extent the Indemnitee is entitled to indemnification. The Secretary of the Company shall, promptly upon receipt of such a request for indemnification, advise the Board in writing that the Indemnitee has requested indemnification.

(b) Upon written request by the Indemnitee for indemnification pursuant to Section 9(a) hereof, a determination, if required by applicable law, with respect to the Indemnitee's entitlement thereto shall be made (i) by the Board by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of Disinterested Directors; or (ii) if a quorum cannot be obtained or, even if attainable, a quorum of Disinterested Directors so directs, by (a) Independent Counsel in a written opinion; or (b) by the shareholders of the Company. If it is determined that the Indemnitee is entitled to indemnification, payment to the Indemnitee shall be made within 10 working days after such determination. The Indemnitee shall cooperate with the person, persons or entity making such determination with respect to the Indemnitee's entitlement to indemnification, including providing to such person, persons or entity upon reasonable advance request any documentation or information which is not privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure and which is reasonably available to the Indemnitee and reasonably necessary to such determination.

10. Presumptions and Effect of Certain Proceedings.

(a) If a Change of Control shall have occurred, in making a determination with respect to entitlement to indemnification hereunder, and following the procedures in Section 9, as applicable, it shall be presumed that the Indemnitee is entitled to indemnification under this Agreement if the Indemnitee has submitted a request for indemnification in accordance with Section 9(a) of this Agreement, and the Company shall have the burden of proof to overcome that presumption in connection with the making by any person, persons or entity of any determination contrary to that presumption.

(b) If the Indemnitee's right to indemnification shall not have been made within 60 days after receipt by the Company of the request therefor, the requisite determination of entitlement to indemnification shall be deemed to have been made and the Indemnitee shall be entitled to such indemnification, absent (i) a misstatement by the Indemnitee of a material fact, or an omission of a material fact necessary to make the Indemnitee's statement not materially misleading, in connection with the request for indemnification, or (ii) a prohibition of such indemnification under applicable law; provided, however, that such 60-day period may be extended for a reasonable time, not to exceed an additional 30 days, if the person, persons or entity making the determination with respect to entitlement to indemnification in good faith requires such additional time for the obtaining or evaluating of documentation and/or information relating thereto; and provided, further, that the foregoing provisions of Section 10(b) shall not apply (i) if the determination of entitlement to indemnification is to be made by the

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execution of such documents as are necessary to enable the Company to bring suit and .

(d)

(e)

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23. Governing Law. This Agreement and any dispute, disagreement, or issue of construction or interpretation arising hereunder whether relating to its execution, its validity, the obligations provided herein or performance shall be governed or interpreted according to the internal laws of the State of Delaware without regard to choice of law considerations.

24. Arbitration. Any controversy, dispute or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement, or its interpretation, application, implementation, breach or enforcement which the parties are unable to resolve by mutual agreement, shall be settled by submission by either party of the controversy, claim or dispute to binding arbitration in New York County, New York (unless the parties agree in writing to a different location), before a single arbitrator in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association then in effect. In any such arbitration proceeding the parties agree to provide all discovery deemed necessary by the arbitrator. The decision and award made by the arbitrator shall be final, binding and conclusive on all parties hereto for all purposes, and judgment may be entered thereon in any court having jurisdiction thereof.

25. Section or Paragraph Headings. Section headings herein have been inserted for reference only and shall not be deemed to limit or otherwise affect, in any matter, or be deemed to interpret in whole or in part any of the terms or provisions of this Agreement.

[Signature Page To Follow]

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**Exhibit A**

**Wire Instructions**



Warrant Schedule:

<u>Warrant Holder</u>	<u># of Warrants</u>	<u>Strike Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>
		\$0.155	\$

**CERTIFICATION OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

I, Michael Mathews, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Aspen Group, Inc.;
  2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
  3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant for the periods presented in this report.
  4.
    - a)
    - b)
    - c)
    - d)
  5.
    - a)
    - b)
-



**CERTIFICATION OF PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL OFFICER**

I, Janet Gill, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Aspen Group, Inc.;

2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;

3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;

4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:

a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;

b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented our conclusions regarding the effectiveness of those controls and procedures during the period covered by this report;

d)

5.

a)

b)

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