# THE PENSION PLAN FOR PROFESSIONAL STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

For the Year Ended September 30, 2008



PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Chartered Accountants 95 King Street South, Suite 201 Waterloo, Ontario Canada N2J 5A2 Telephone +1 519 570 5700 Facsimile +1 519 570 5730

February 25, 2009

#### **Auditors' Report**

#### To the Board of Governors of the University of Guelph

We have audited the statement of net assets available for benefits of the Pension Plan for Professional Staff of the University of Guelph (the "Plan") as at September 30, 2008 and the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended. These financial statements have been prepared to comply with Section 76 of Regulation 909 to the Pension Benefits Act of the Province of Ontario. These financial statements are the responsibility of the pension plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the Plan's management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits as at September 30, 2008 and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of accounting as disclosed in note 3 to the financial statements.

These financial statements, which have not been, and were not intended to be, prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, are solely for the information and use of the Board of Governors of the University of Guelph and the Financial Services Commission of Ontario for complying with Section 76 of Regulation 909 to the Pension Benefits Act of the Province of Ontario. The financial statements are not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the specified users or for any other purpose.

Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP

**Chartered Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants** 

"PricewaterhouseCoopers" refers to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an Ontario limited liability partnership, or, as the context requires, the PricewaterhouseCoopers global network or other member firms of the network, each of which is a separate and independent legal entity.

# The Pension Plan for Professional Staff of University of Guelph

#### Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits

As at September 30, 2008

(in thousands of dollars)

	2008	2007
ASSETS		
Interest in Pooled Fund of		
University of Guelph Pension Plans (Note 2)	577,247	644,445
Accrued interplan transfers receivable	122	1,256
Member contributions receivable	565	-
	577,934	645,701
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable (Note 4)	7,175	5,936
Net Assets Available for Benefits	570,759	639,765

# The Pension Plan for Professional Staff of University of Guelph

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

As at September 30, 2008

(in thousands of dollars)

	2008	2007
Increase in Net Assets		
Employer contributions	26,624	34,664
Member contributions	8,738	7,029
Interplan transfers	142	1,295
	35,504	42,988
Realized income	34,236	80,206
Total Increase in Net Assets	69,740	123,194
Decrease in Net Assets		
Net decrease in unrealized gain	102,651	30,027
Pension payments	28,749	28,245
Refunds of contributions	6,385	4,433
Administrative expenses and professional fees (Note 5)	961	1,038
Total Decrease in Net Assets	138,746	63,743
Net Increase (Decrease) for the Year	(69,006)	59,451
Net Assets at Beginning of Year, at Market Value	639,765	580,314
Net Assets at End of Year, at Market Value	570,759	639,765

### 1. Description of Plan

The following description of the Pension Plan for Professional Staff of the University of Guelph (the "Plan") is a summary only. For more complete information, reference should be made to the Plan Text.

### General

The Plan is a contributory defined benefit pension plan and is registered with Canada Revenue Agency and the Financial Services Commission of Ontario (registration #0324616). The Plan holds units in the Pooled Fund of the University of Guelph Pension Plans. The Plan is integrated with the Canada Pension Plan ("CPP").

# **Plan Eligibility**

The Plan covers all regular full-time and certain part-time faculty and professional staff. Effective October 1, 1997 newly hired regular full-time faculty and professional staff must become members of this pension plan. Temporary full-time and certain part-time faculty and professional staff may be eligible to join this plan after 24 continuous months of employment with the University.

#### **Service Pensions**

A service pension is available based on the number of years of service, to a maximum of 35 years, times the sum of 1.5% of the final average earnings up to the average CPP yearly maximum pensionable earnings and 2.0% of the difference between average CPP yearly maximum pensionable earnings and final average earnings. Final average earnings are based on the employee's best 36 consecutive months of earnings. The normal retirement age is 65.

### **Survivor Pensions**

A survivor pension is paid to a spouse, a dependent child, or a named dependent of a plan member if so elected by the plan member.

### Refunds

A death refund is payable to the estate of a pensioner or survivor where such pensions have not been paid to the full extent of contributions plus interest. Similarly, a death refund is payable to the named beneficiary of the estate of a plan member where no survivor pension is paid.

Upon application, and subject to lock-in provisions, a withdrawal refund, with interest on the contributions, is payable when a plan member ceases to be employed by the University of Guelph.

### Vesting

Pension benefits vest in the plan member immediately upon joining the Plan.

### 1. Description of Plan (continued)

#### **Income Taxes**

The Plan is a registered pension trust as defined in the Income Tax Act (Canada) and, as such, is exempt from income taxes.

### **Funding Policy**

In accordance with the Plan Text, plan members are required to contribute 4.8% of their salary up to CPP yearly maximum pensionable earnings and 6.5% of their salary above CPP yearly maximum pensionable earnings to the Plan. The University of Guelph is required to provide any additional funding, based on actuarial valuations, necessary to ensure that defined benefits will be fully provided for at retirement. The most recent actuarial valuation for funding purposes was prepared by Towers Perrin as of August 1, 2007 and a copy of this valuation was filed with the Financial Services Commission of Ontario.

### 2. Interest in Pooled Fund

The assets of the Plan are administered in a Pooled Fund, which includes the assets of other University of Guelph pension plans. The Plan holds units in the Pooled Fund and these units had a market value of \$577.2 million (2007 - \$644.4 million) and a book value of \$631.3 million (2007 - \$595.8 million) at September 30, 2008. The unrealized loss at September 30, 2008 was \$54.1 million (2007 - \$48.6 million unrealized gain).

The market value of the units in the Pooled Fund reflects the market value of the underlying assets of the Pooled Fund where available, or comparable security prices as appropriate.

### 3. Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Basis of Accounting**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies set out below to comply with the accounting requirements prescribed by the Financial Services Commission of Ontario for financial statements under section 76 of Regulation 909 of the Pension Benefits Act of the Province of Ontario. The basis of accounting used in these financial statements materially differs from Canadian generally accepted accounting principles because it excludes the actuarial liabilities of the plan. Consequently, these financial statements do not purport to show the adequacy of the plan's assets to meet its pension obligations.

# 3. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

### **Realized Income**

Realized income in the pool consists of realized gains and losses on the sale of investments, recorded at the settlement date and based on the average cost of the securities, plus interest income, recognized as it accrues, plus dividend income, recognized as of the ex-dividend date, less investment counsel fees and trustee fees.

The Plan's pro-rata share of total realized income is calculated based on the units held by the Plan in the Pooled Fund.

# **Contributions, Benefit Payments and Refunds**

Contributions, benefit payments and refunds are recorded on the accrual basis.

### 4. Accounts Payable

[in thousands of dollars]	2008	2007
Refund of contributions plus interest	6,812	5,512
Administration fees to the University of Guelph	276	300
Professional fees	70	109
Provincial regulatory fees and Pension Benefit Guarantee Fund	17	15
	7,175	5,936

# 5. Administrative Expenses and Professional Fees

[in thousands of dollars]	2008	2007
University of Guelph Administrative Fee	413	437
Professional Fees:	110	157
Actuarial Fees	488	534
Legal, Accounting and Auditing Fees	19	26
Other Fees*	41	41
	961	1,038

\* includes Provincial regulatory fees and Pension Benefit Guarantee Fund.

#### 6. Related Party Transactions [ in thousands of dollars ]

During the year ended September 30, 2008, the University of Guelph charged the Pooled Fund 564 (2007 - 597) for administrative services. Of these charges, 413 (2007 - 437) related to the professional plan.