

Bentley University Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Narrative

Bentley University concluded the fiscal year on June 30, 2024, in a solid financial position, maintaining a solid balance sheet and significant revenue growth driven by increased enrollment. These strong results allow the university to invest in and execute critical initiatives that strengthen its long-term competitiveness.

Statement of Financial Position

Cash and working capital balances remained strong, rising by \$14.8 million to close the year at \$110.6 million. This increase is the result of a positive operating margin and effective cash management strategies. Investments also saw substantial growth, reaching \$374 million, driven by favorable investment returns of \$39.7 million and \$4.4 million in new endowment gifts, offset by an annual endowment distribution of \$14.4 million. In FY2024, capital expenditures were primarily directed towards renewal and improvement projects, amounting to \$19.5 million. Total net assets saw a substantial increase of \$49.4 million, reaching \$599.2 million from \$549.8 million the previous year. This marks an impressive cumulative rise of \$187 million since 2020, indicating a healthy financial position with a strong endowment and investment portfolio.

Statement of Activities

Operating Results

Bentley University concluded the fiscal year with an operating margin of \$20.4 million, highlighting its strong operational efficiency and effective cost management. This growth was fueled by record-high undergraduate enrollment. Additional revenue sources, including government grants (notably FEMA funding for prior-year expenses related to COVID-19) and increased working capital income from favorable interest rates, also played a significant role in the overall revenue growth.

Operating expenses increased by \$18.7 million driven by rising costs in salary and benefits and contractual increases.

Non-Operating Results

Non-operating activities also had a positive impact, with a year-over-year increase of \$28.9 million. This growth was driven by a \$26.3 million rise in investment returns and a \$2.5 million increase in contributions to the endowment. The overall increase in net assets highlights the university's ability to generate surplus funds and reinvest in its strategic priorities.