

# JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY NORTHERN IRELAND

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023*

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The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019).

### **Objectives and activities**

John Brown University Northern Ireland (JBUNI) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of John Brown University (JBU), in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, United States of America (USA). The John Brown University Irish Studies Program is conducted through the JBUNI entity, which is the instrument to provide qualified students who will benefit from and contribute to the multicultural environments at Lakeside Manor in Belfast, Northern Ireland. We strive to broaden the JBU experience through the Irish Studies Programs and to develop Christ-centered and globally-aware students who can engage with people from all backgrounds in order to impact the world for Christ.

The John Brown University Irish Studies Program provides opportunity for North American students, and students from all corners of the world, the opportunity to engage fully with key aspects of literature, art, music, history and politics in a contemporary Irish setting. The study programs encompass a complete Irish cultural experience. Giving real insight into contemporary Irish culture and society, guided field-trips are arranged to bring the learning experience beyond the classroom and students sample caint, craic agus ceol ('conversation, fun and music') in both traditional and modern contexts.

# JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY NORTHERN IRELAND

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023*

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### **PRIMARY ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

#### **JBUNI Semester Terms (As described to North American students)**

If you're looking for a chance to experience a beautiful foreign country while learning alongside fellow JBU students and faculty, you've found it here. Each fall, fifteen JBU students travel throughout Ireland while studying Irish culture and literature. You'll stay at JBU's own Lakeside Manor, located just four miles outside of Belfast. Even better, you can earn fifteen hours of university credit toward your core curriculum and/or major requirements. While in Ireland, you'll get to travel around the island and visit sites connected to your studies as well as some of the most beautiful tourist locations. You'll visit spots where great Irish authors, such as W.B. Yeats, penned some of their greatest works. You'll pray in Saul, the site of St. Patrick's first church in Ireland. You'll enjoy Irish culture, great fish & chips, Irish stew, and of course the best cup of tea you'll find in the world!

#### **JBUNI Summer Term (As described to North American students)**

Irish Studies is a six-week, nine credit hour program designed for all majors. We'll travel around the island and visit sites connected to our studies as well as some of the most beautiful tourist locations. We'll visit Stormont, Northern Ireland's parliament, and chat with members face to face. We'll visit spots where great Irish authors, such as W.B. Yeats, penned some of their greatest works. We'll pray together in Saul, the site of St. Patrick's first church in Ireland. We'll enjoy Irish culture, great fish & chips, Irish stew, and of course the best cup of tea you'll find in the world!

### **OTHER PROGRAMS**

#### **JBUNI Summer Mission Term**

We have served with the towns of Ballynahinch, Belfast, Carryduff, and Killyleagh. Our primary ministries are Children's Bible Club for the youngsters ages 4-11, Sports Camp for students aged 11-16, and church involvement. Other activities we have participated in previously include gospel presentations in public primary schools, small group leadership for teen girls, and worship or preaching leadership in Sunday services.

#### **JBUNI Cathedral Choir Tour**

One group in particular that has benefitted from the Irish Mission Programs is JBU's Cathedral Choir, which has visited Northern Ireland. JBUNI was instrumental in casting the vision for the choir tour and has helped the Cathedral Choir gain access to great venues in Northern Ireland. Including an open invitation to the Northern Ireland Assembly at Stormont, where they visit each tour.

#### **JBUNI Hosts CCCU Students**

In the spring semester, JBUNI hosts students from the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities in the United States. Through the CCCU, the students study Peacemaking and Reconciliation of Northern Ireland, Irish Art & Culture, Irish Literature, Christian Thought & Practice, Ireland & Western Civilization, Intercultural Communication. Additionally, they have service learning opportunities.

# JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY NORTHERN IRELAND

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023*

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### **EXAMPLE ACADEMIC MODULES**

#### **BBL 4043 Capstone Seminar: Irish Perspectives of Christian Life**

A writing-intensive course designed to encourage critical and reflective thought about Christian formation. The Core Curriculum's significant role in Christian formation is considered. Works of St. Patrick and C.S. Lewis are presented as a basis for student reflection and as guides to Christian living. Students visit historical sites significant to each of these men and develop an understanding of their writings and contributions to the Christian faith. Visits to local churches give students opportunity to observe the present-day church in Ireland and to enjoy fellowship with Irish believers of various denominations.

#### **RPH 3003 Introduction to Philosophy**

A survey of the main areas of philosophy, including metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, and philosophy of religion. Students should develop their critical reading skills, their ability to analyze difficult but rewarding philosophical texts, and their ability to advance a single, clear argument on philosophical issues. Additionally, students should become more comfortable speaking about philosophical problems and concerns, and they should know more about the relationship between the Christian faith and contemporary philosophy.

#### **BBL 3003 Essentials of Evangelical Theology**

Evangelical Theology is a study of the essential doctrines of the Christian faith, including Scripture, the triune God, salvation, the Church, creation, and the eternal Kingdom. The unity of divine revelation and the contemporary applicability of the Scriptures are emphasized. By studying the method of theological formation, students should be able to discern primary and secondary theological concepts and apply them properly to their personal lives as well as to their involvement in the Church and the world.

#### **EGL 4043 Masterpieces of Irish Literature**

A reading-intensive overview of the literary history of Ireland through examination of selected works of Irish writers, poets and playwrights such as William Butler Yeats, Oscar Wilde, Seamus Heaney, Samuel Beckett, George Bernard Shaw, James Joyce, C. S. Lewis, and others. A scholarly paper is required.

#### **ART 2163 Irish Art & Culture**

A study of Irish art forms such as painting, sculpture, architecture, and film. Special attention is given to the connection between art forms and Irish history and culture. As part of the Irish Studies Program, the course combines academic course work with visits to important cultural sites in Ireland as well as guest lecturers from contemporary artists.

#### **ECN 2543 Economics and Society of Ireland**

On-location study of major economic and social issues facing Northern Ireland, and by extension the European Union. Using primary text, *The Economics of European Integration*, students gain understanding of topics such as distribution of wealth and income, unemployment, economic and monetary union, common markets, cultural identity, and conditions for balanced growth. Other texts and class activities apply theories and insights to the Irish situation.

# JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY NORTHERN IRELAND

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023*

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## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023*

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### **Financial review**

As mentioned earlier, John Brown University Northern Ireland (JBUNI) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of John Brown University (JBU). JBU is an independent Christian university of arts and sciences located in Siloam Springs, Arkansas USA. Evangelist, author, and radio pioneer John E. Brown founded the JBU in 1919 as an interdenominational Christian school with an educational philosophy dedicated to the integration of academic excellence (Head), moral and spiritual development (Heart), and professional education (Hand). In 1934, the state of Arkansas chartered the institution as a university. Today, JBU continues the founder's Head, Heart, and Hand philosophy with a strong academic emphasis to prepare students to focus their lives toward service through their professions. Therefore, JBU provides a balanced emphasis of liberal arts and career orientation for its students. The student body is diverse and unique. JBU serves over 2,200 students from 38 nations and 36 states. It has 52 traditional undergraduate programs, 11 graduate programs, and 8 online undergraduate programs. Under USA regulations, JBU is classified as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) educational organization by the Internal Revenue Service. As such, it is exempt from USA federal and Arkansas state income tax, and charitable contributions by the public are deductible for income tax purposes. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, JBU formed John Brown University Northern Ireland. Both entities are consolidated in the financial statements for JBU in the United States as JBU is the controlling entity. For the year ended June 30, 2023, JBU held assets in excess of \$295 million (USD). Expenses totaled \$52 million (USD).

# JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY NORTHERN IRELAND

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023*

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### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Ms K Hadley

Dr C Pollard III

Mr E Ericson

(Resigned 20 June 2023)

Mr R B Norwood

(Appointed 20 June 2023)

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The results for the year are set out on pages 10-20

### **Disclosure of information to auditor**

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Ms K Hadley

Trustee

Dated: .....

*March 28, 2024*