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# “Privatized” Student Housing on Campus

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

# Speakers

## Moderator



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# Speakers



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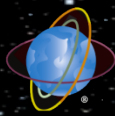
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# ADVANTAGES OF PRIVATIZING

**Paul W. Reichel**  
**Bond Schoeneck & King**

# Advantages of Privatizing

- Improved balance sheet
- Preserve debt capacity/capital
- Expedited development timeline

# Advantages of Privatizing

- Access to latest trends/expertise
- Focus on core competencies



# **DISADVANTAGES/RISKS OF PRIVATIZING (Depends on Structure)**

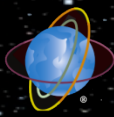
**Paul W. Reichel**  
**Bond Schoeneck & King**

# Disadvantages/Risks of Privatizing

- Forego revenue stream
- Less control over pricing, operation, etc.
- Quality of construction?

# Disadvantages/Risks of Privatizing

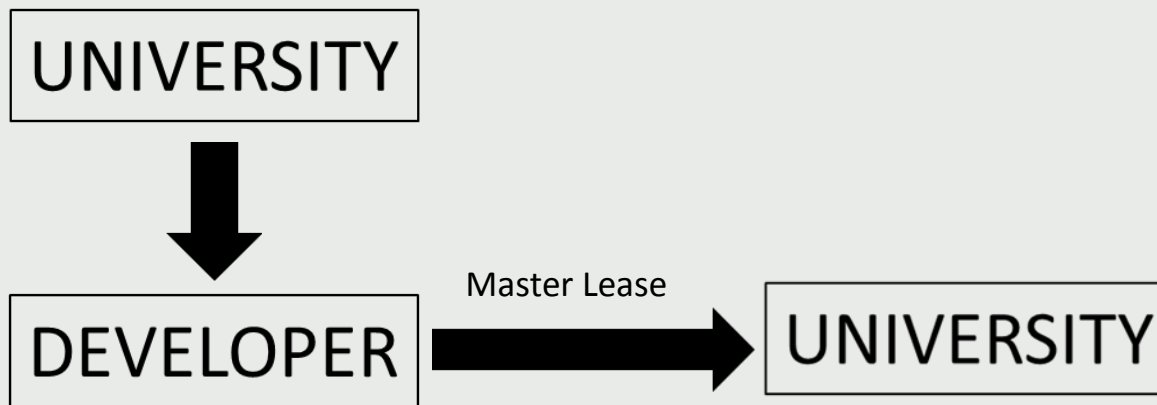
- “Reputational risk”
- Still “on-credit”?
- Impact on tax, permitting and other exemptions



# STRUCTURE ALTERNATIVES

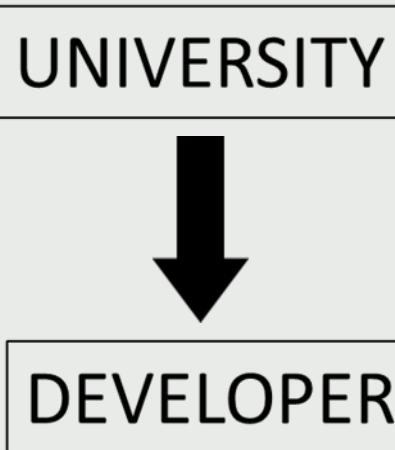
**Brandon Lewisohn**  
**Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein**

# GROUND LEASE TO DEVELOPER; MASTER LEASE TO UNIVERSITY



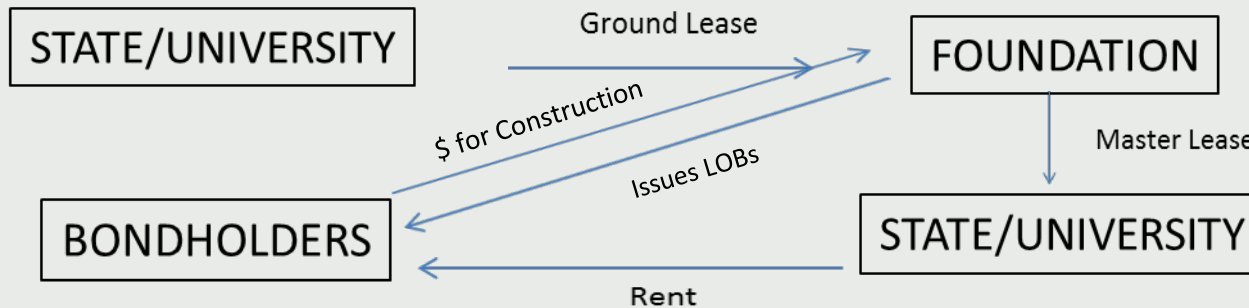
- Developer owns and operates as a private for-profit project. Incur construction risk, however has captured tenant for term (generally term is commensurate with amortization of debt)
- Construction quality
- Liability issues
- Lower cost if outside of state procurement rules

# Ground Lease to Developer



- Developer owns and operates as a private for profit project. University receives a percentage of rental income or fixed rental amount. At end of term project ownership reverts to University for nominal amount.
- Low risk
- Low control by University

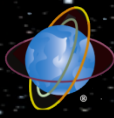
# GROUND LEASE TO DEVELOPER; MASTER LEASE TO UNIVERSITY



- Limited Obligation Bonds (“LOBs”)
- Since rent is derived from State, entity satisfies government test and bonds are tax exempt
- Full control
- Credit risk
- Operation risk
- Recourse is to project and, possibly, reputation

## Foundation-Owned Project

- 501(c)(3) designated entity (“Foundation”)
- Issue tax exempt bonds to finance
- Other than Foundation, parties included are all private for profit entities, so profit drives the project.
- Concern on traveling 501(c)3 entities



# FOUNDATION-OWNED PROJECTS

**Paul W. Reichel**  
**Bond Schoeneck & King**

## Foundation-Owned Projects

- Create new 501(c)(3) or use existing (c)(3) such as College Foundation, Faculty-Student Association or Auxiliary Services Corporation
- If use existing (c)(3), establish wholly owned LLC for protection

## Foundation-Owned Projects

- Foundation leases facility to school
  - Master lease between Foundation and school

OR

- Foundation licenses rooms directly to student
  - Operating agreement between Foundation and school

# Foundation-Owned Projects

- Advantages:
  - Expedited process
  - Significant control
  - Off balance sheet (perhaps)
  - Preserve debt capacity
  - Tax-exempt (financing, sales tax, property tax)

# Community College Model (New York)

- NY community colleges have no authority to construct/operate residence halls
- College sponsors (counties) may be reluctant to incur debt
- Solution: Foundation-Owned Project

# Community College Model (New York)

- County ground lease to Foundation
- Foundation finances and constructs
- Foundation operates residence hall by contract with College



# **PROTECTING THE SCHOOL'S INTERESTS**

**Brandon Lewisohn  
Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein**

# Audit Risks

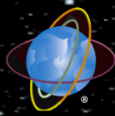
- Tax-exempt bonds
- Private use
- Greek housing
- Random audits

# Control Risks

- Management
- Debt pressures (rent)
- Liability (developer-owned)
- Links between private entity and institution

# Capacity Risks

- Siphoning
- First fill or similar arrangements
- Debt pressures
- Unfilled units



# CREDIT IMPACT

**Paul W. Reichel**  
**Bond Schoeneck & King**

# Credit Impact

- Off balance sheet, on-credit?
- The greater the likelihood the school will step in if project fails, the greater the impact on school's credit rating.

## Credit Impact

- School's credit rating more likely to be impacted if:
  - Project located on central campus or on adjacent land
  - Significant percentage of total beds
  - School shares in cash flow
  - School provides/guarantees debt
  - School provides fill covenant
  - Occupancy tests before new housing may be constructed

# Please Contact Any of our Speakers for More Information

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