

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

**April 20th 2023, 7:00 P.M.**

**Zoom Conference Call**

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/94712902920?pwd=VHBoM2tMUGJON1k5VE1EWTVRTkNUZz09>

Passcode: 44657953

**Call to Order: 7:01 pm**

**Mission Statement:** Graduate Students at the University of Oklahoma have a number of unique concerns and interests requiring a voice separate from the usual instruments that express the will of the faculty and of undergraduates. For this reason, the Graduate Student Senate of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association was established in 1987 to represent all Graduate Students and to serve their needs.

**Reading and Approval of the Minutes (minutes from previous meeting):**

<https://www.ou.edu/content/dam/sga/common/GSS/minutes/2023/GSS4-6-23Minutes.pdf>

- Senator Norris (112), seconded by Senator Walton (85)

**Officer Reports:**

- Chair:
  - This evening is our last meeting of the academic year. Thank you all for agreeing to serve and for representing your peers! I've got a few last items I wanted to go over:
  - If you would like to return as a senator next year, you will need to let your liaison know at the beginning of the fall semester. I will e-mail your liaison and copy the department's senators from this past year, noting that the last senators may be interested in returning. It will be up to your department whether they send returning senators or elect to send new ones! Our bylaws don't limit your term – they just require the support of your department.
  - Please fill out the Google survey I sent regarding an end-of-the-semester social! Right now, it looks like May 17th and May 19th are the two top choices. Let me know if you're interested in attending and have any dietary restrictions – we can only accommodate them if we know folks have them. You can send me an e-mail ([gss@ou.edu](mailto:gss@ou.edu)). We will likely take a potluck approach to this event, where everyone brings something to share. I will close this poll tomorrow evening and send an e-mail Monday with the date, location, and additional logistics!
  - We've got a longer list of items to get through this evening, but I plan on moving many of them to the floor as blocks to help expedite the process a bit.
- Vice-Chair:
  - Nothing to report.
- Secretary:
  - It has been a pleasure to serve as your secretary, I look forward to serving on the IA committee moving forward, and I look forward to seeing all of you who will be returning next year!

**Committee Reports:**

- Academic Affairs: Approved the Outstanding graduate awards
- Development & Philanthropy: Nothing new to report No new candidates for 2023-24 identified
- External Affairs/Human Diversity: Went over the wages presentation and also decided Brian Carlton would be Chair and Ryan Beaty would be Vice Chair for next year.

- Internal Affairs: A lot of bill to go through. Mainly appointment bills that will go in a block. Talked about the objections that will be brought u on the primary funding act. There is also a parking appeals. There are a few other bills that the chair have no objections to. There is also a change to the code annotated and setting the next Red River Holiday. Last thing, a vote to overrule the SGA President, who wrote the legislation for an application for a undergraduate hire position. It was previously passed by both the Congress and Senate, but then VETO by the SGA President. This is for the leadership positions of the SGA branches.
- International Student Affairs: We received a total of 45 responses in regards to the international student survey, which is sufficient to fill the survey bank. Additionally, we are currently in the process of finishing up a linked group dedicated to connecting international students to employment opportunities
- Public Relations: Graduate student advisory luncheon graphic was posted. Potential legislation postponed from our senator, more information was needed. It will be passed on to the next senator in that department for the next semester. Graduate student awards post needs to be done ASAP to announce. Two officers will likely be back next semester and would like to maintain their positions.
- Sustainability: The committee reviewed the final Draft of the E-Waste recycling resolution. - Resolution officially dubbed as Time to E-Recycle 2023 -Sources were established for the evidence and recommendations. Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality: <https://www.deq.ok.gov/land-protection-division/recycling/computer-equipment-recycling/recycling-electronic-waste/> EPA Oklahoma Statement: <https://www.epa.gov/international-cooperation/cleaning-electronic-waste-e-waste> -Draft to be sent to the Internal Affairs committee for review by Friday, 04-14-2023. -Wrap up of 2022-2023 committee term tasks.
- Ways and Means: Elections: We decide our chair for the next semester. Isabella Chiareli will be chair next year. We will select the vice chair and secretary next semester. We briefly talk about Fall 2023 Applications. What should we keep in mind for the fall?

**Special Orders: Motion to move special orders to new business by Senator Norris (112), seconded by Senator Karami (7)**

#### **Old Business:**

#### **New Business:**

- GS23-24 Superior Court Justices Appointment Act of 2023  
GS23-25 Appointing Parking Appeals Judges Act of 2023  
GS23-26 It's On Us Appointment Act of 2023  
GS23-35 General Counsel Appointment Act.  
GS23-36 Rhoads-Savage Appointment Act
  - Motion to move GS23-24, GS23-25, GS23-26, GS23-35 & GS23-36 to floor by Senator Walton (85), seconded by Senator Fogg (81)
  - Author President Christopher Firch: Purpose of the legislation is to name and appoint Superior Court justices, judges for the Student Parking Appeals Board, the head of the It's On Us chapter at the University of Oklahoma, General Counsel, and Co-Chairs for the Crimson Leadership Association for the remainder of 2023.
  - Yields time for question
  - Senator Norris (112): Motion to approve via unanimous consent.
  - No objections
  - Motion passes
- GS23-27 High Office Clarification Act of 2023

GS23-28 Election Policies Act of 2023

GS23-32 Parking Appeals Reorganization Act

- Motion to move GS23-27, GS23-28, and GS23-32 to floor by Senator Karami (7), seconded by Senator Norris (112)
  - Author Representative Carter Strickland, University College District: Purpose of the legislation is to correct the mistakes made by the High Office Clarification Acts of 2014 and 2017, as well as to clarify the separation of powers within the Student Government Association by aligning the SGACA to the SGA Constitution, and to update the Parking Appeals Board's composition and rules.
  - Yields time for question
  - Senator Chiareli (119): Motion to approve via unanimous consent.
  - Seconded by Senator Karami (7)
  - No objections
  - Motion passes
- GS23-28 Election Policies Act of 2023
    - Motion to move GS23-28 to floor by Senator Walton (85), seconded by Senator Karami (7)
    - Author Tucker Dunn, Congressional Administration Committee Chairman: The purpose of this act shall be to establish and amend the policies listed in Chapter VI-4(5), "General Campaign Rules," and the rules regarding uncontested elections in Chapter VI-1(7) "Uncontested Elections."
    - Yields time for question
    - Senator Karami (7): Motion to move to the general floor with a recommendation of no rec via unanimous consent.
    - Seconded by Senator Mentzer (11)
    - No objections
    - Motion passes
- GS23-29 Red River Holiday Act of 2023
    - Motion to move GS23-29 to floor by Senator Walton (85), seconded by Senator Chiareli (119)
    - Author President Christopher Firch: The purpose of this act shall be to officially submit an unscheduled holiday to the University of Oklahoma President, Joseph Harroz Jr., for approval pursuant to Section 5.15 of the Board of Regents policy manual..
    - Yields time for question
    - Senator Norris (112): Motion to move to the general floor with a recommendation of no rec via unanimous consent.
    - No objections
    - Motion passes
- GS23-30 Primary Funding Act of 2023 for Governmental Organizations
  - GS23-31 Primary Funding Act of 2023 for Registered Student Organizations
    - Motion to move GS23-30 and GS23-31 to floor by Senator Norris (112), seconded by Senator Karami (7)
    - Author Demetri Papahronis, Chair, SGA Budget Committee: The purpose of this act is to appropriate the funds of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association to the organizations mentioned within.
    - Yields time for question

- Senator Hamilton (82): of our 12 organizations in the school of Law that requested \$77,000, only 10% of what they asked for was approved. This bill has 9 organization constituting 50% of the total monies allocated. I understand that sometimes you go based on money from the year before, but why is it that some organizations still do not see increases in their primary funding despite having consistent Aux funding requests, while other organizations receive the majority of the funds?
  - Author: We consider fiscal history and scope of the organization (how far they reach). Each organization this year received what they received the year before, and one organization getting more money would require other orgs to get less. Auxiliary funding is the superior way to obtain funding and organizations I have spoken to actually look forward to auxiliary funding.
  - Senator Hamilton (82): does auxiliary history factor into the next years primary funding?
  - Author: describes how fiscal history is determined and considered
- Senator Cox (77): Motion to pass via unanimous consent.
- No objections
- Motion passes
- GS23-37 Conoco Student Leadership Center Space Allocation Act of 2023-2024
  - Motion to move GS23-37 and GS23-31 to floor by Senator Walton (85), seconded by Senator Norris (112)
  - Author Chair Abby Halsey-Kraus, Undergraduate Student Congress: The purpose of this act is to allocate office space in the Conoco Student Leadership Center for 2023-2024
  - Yields time for question
  - Senator Norris (112): Motion to pass via unanimous consent
  - No objections
  - Motion passes
- GS23-33 An Act of Procedure Approving Outstanding Graduate Student Awards for the 2022-2023 Academic Year
  - Motion to move GS23-33 to floor by Senator Walton (85), seconded by Senator Chiareli (119)
  - Author Graduate Student Senate Academic Affairs Committee: The purpose of this act is to approve the Outstanding Graduate Student Awards for the 2022-2023 academic year
  - Yields time for question
  - Senator Walton (85): Motion to pass via unanimous consent
  - No objections
  - Motion passes
- GS23-34 Academic Appeals Board Appointment Act of 2023-2024
  - Motion to move GS23-34 to floor by Senator Chiareli (119), seconded by Senator Walton (85)
  - Author Claire Burch, GSS Chair: The purpose of this act is to approve the nominations for the 2023-2024 Academic Appeals Panelists
  - Yields time for question
  - Senator Norris (112): Motion to pass via unanimous consent
  - No objections
  - Motion passes

**Announcements:**

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Senator Hamilton (82), seconded by Senator Gupta (67).

**Adjournment:**

Time: 7:58 PM



# GSS Wage Survey Report

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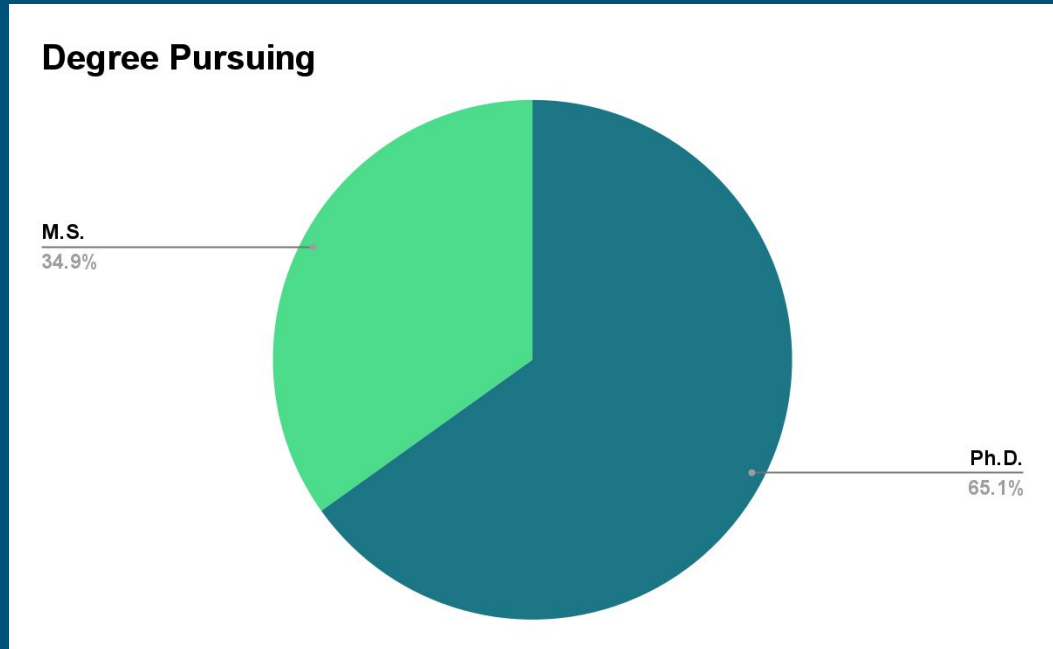
GSS External Affairs Committee



# Overview

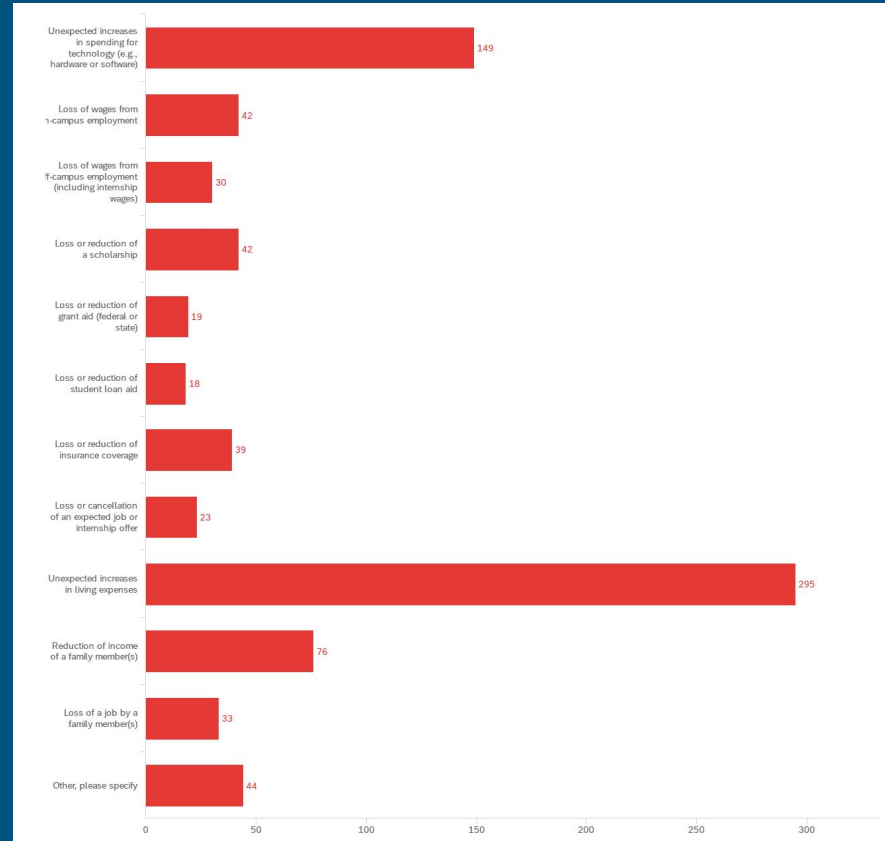
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- 385 responses
- 47 different majors



# Hardships Experienced This Year

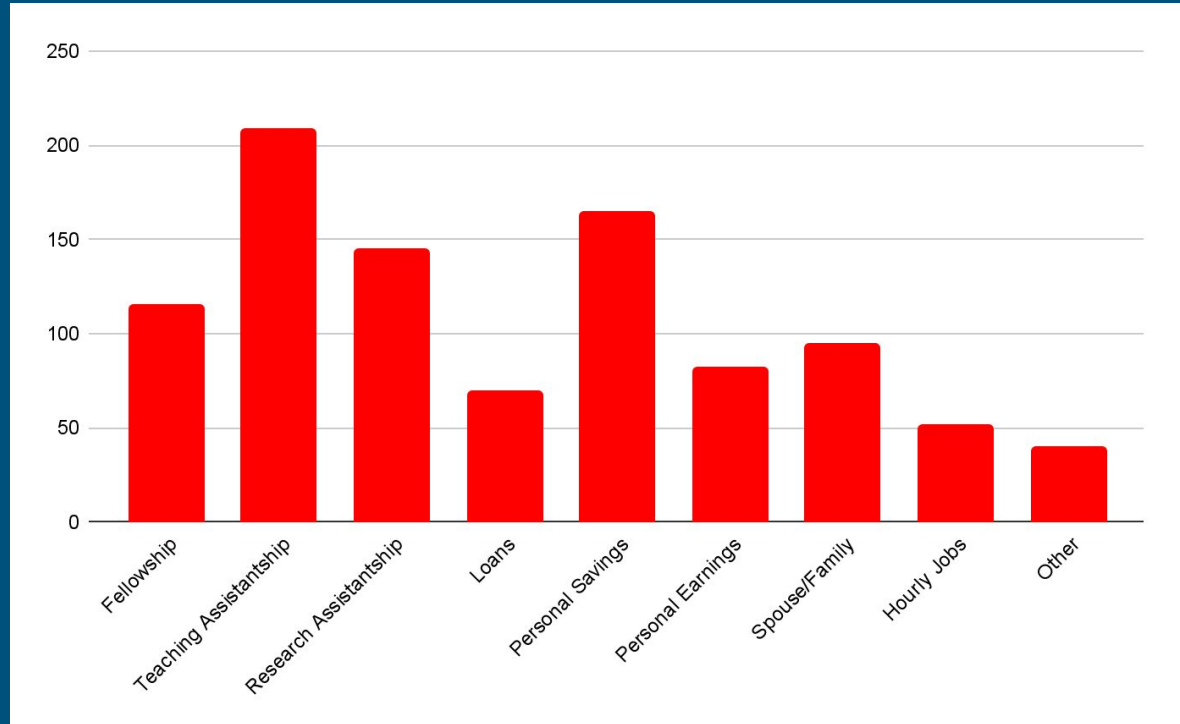
- Top two hardships were unexpected increases in:
  - Living expenses
  - Spending for technology



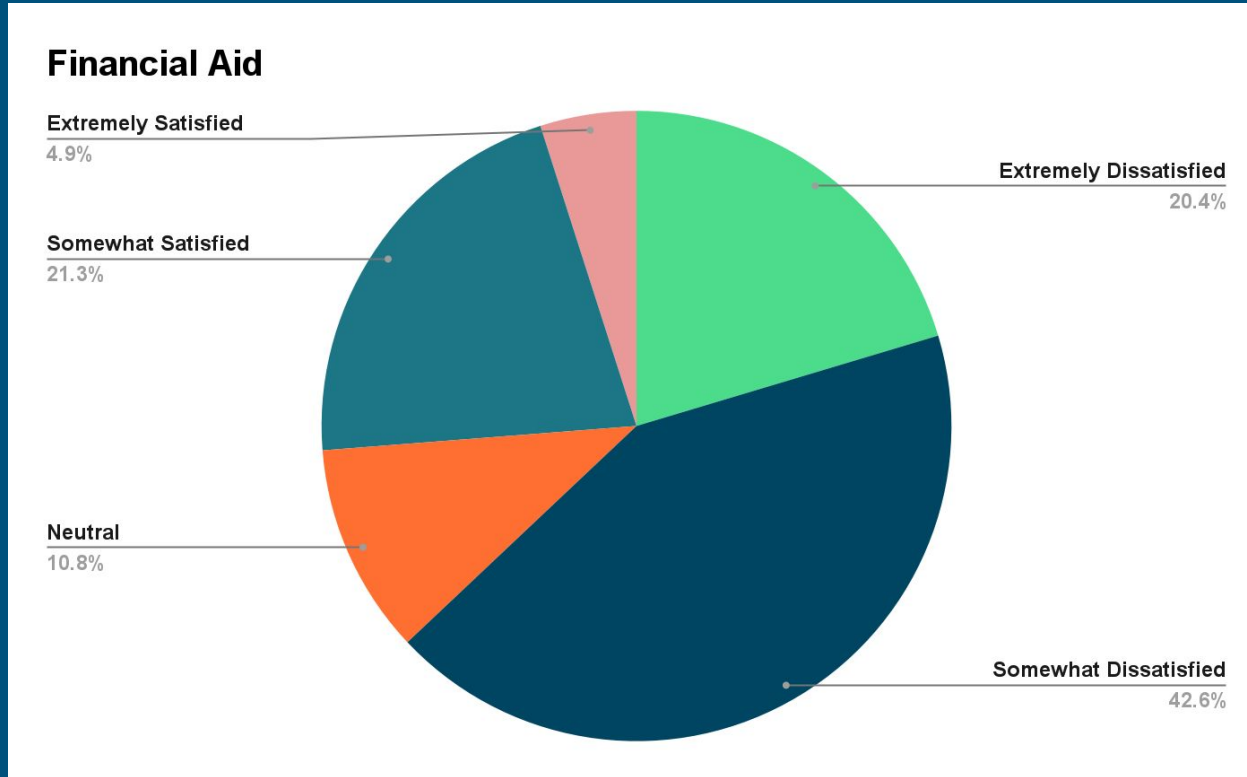


# Sources of Income

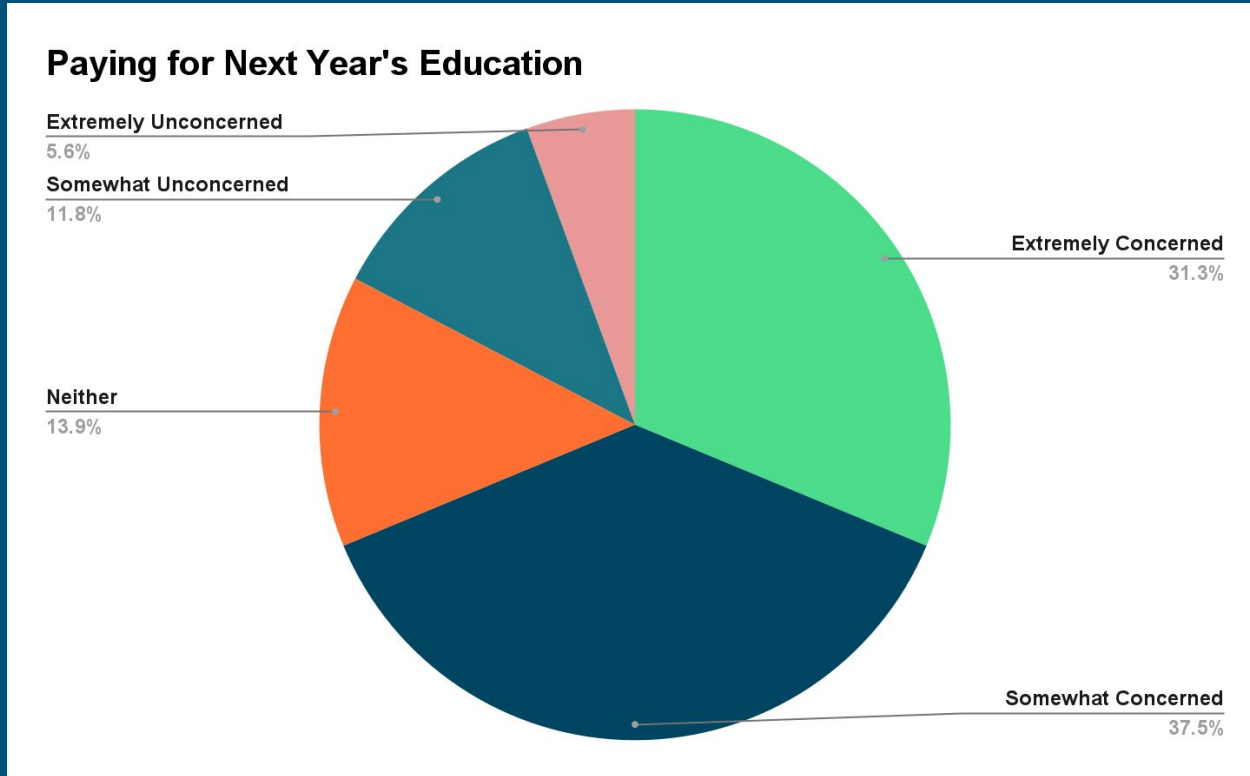
- 988 choices selected



# Current Financial Aid

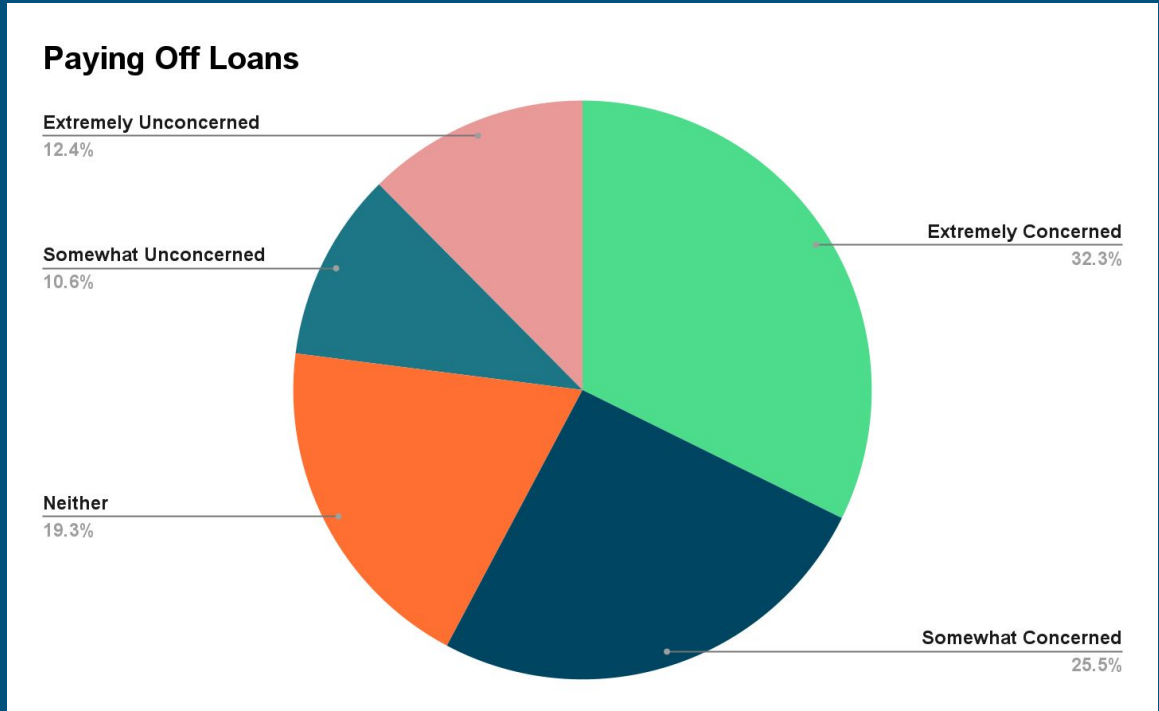


# Paying for Next Year's Education



# Paying Off Loans Post-Graduation

- Average loan:
  - \$32,077
- Average stipend:
  - \$19,776
- National avg. stipend:
  - \$22,000 - \$33,000



# Closing Thoughts

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- Most students are dissatisfied with their stipend and have experienced a large number of hardships this year
- Results from this survey provide a good starting point for potential legislation next year