

**Students' Council Financial Aid Survey of the
Students' Association
Fall 2011**

Conducted by: Lizzie Douglas and Florencia Foxley

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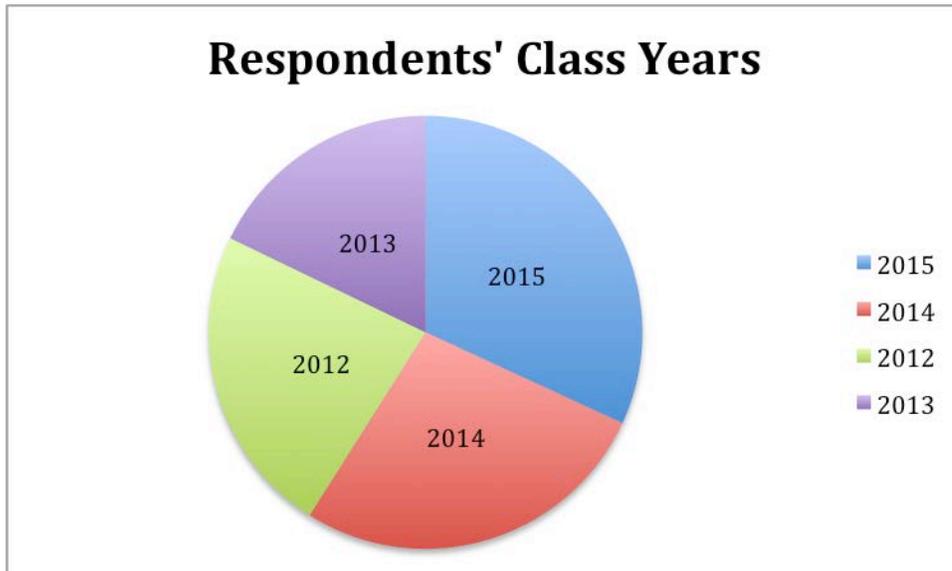
Number of voters: 768 · Group size: 1203 · Percentage voted: 63.84

1a. Please indicate your gender:

	Votes	%
<i>Female</i>	456	59.38
<i>Male</i>	312	40.62

1b. Please indicate your class year:

	Votes	%
<i>2012</i>	178	23.18
<i>2013</i>	137	17.84
<i>2014</i>	208	27.08
<i>2015</i>	245	31.9



Summary of Class Year Demographics:

The lower numbers of junior respondents can be partially attributed to the portion of juniors who are currently abroad and were not sent this survey.

1c. Are you Hispanic or Latino (including Spain)?

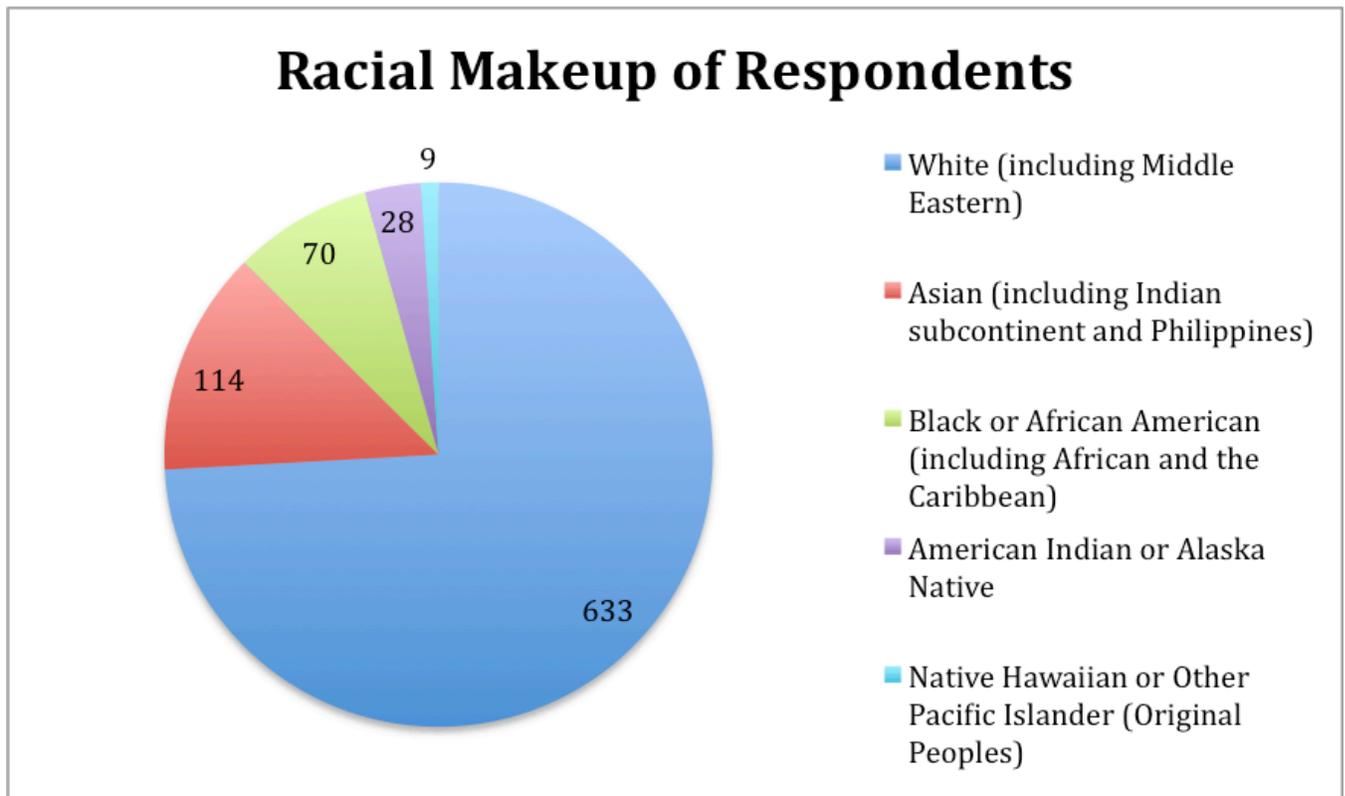
	Votes	%
<i>No</i>	688	89.58
<i>Yes</i>	80	10.42

Summary of Latino Demographics:

We followed the practice of the Common Application when asking students their race/ethnicity. Because many Latinos also qualify or consider themselves white, Native American, or black, students were first asked if they identified as Latino and then were asked to further categorize themselves.

1d. Regardless of your answer to the prior question, please indicate how you identify yourself. Check all that apply.

	Votes	%
<i>White (including Middle Eastern)</i>	633	82.42
<i>Asian (including Indian subcontinent and Philippines)</i>	114	14.84
<i>Black or African American (including African and the Caribbean)</i>	70	9.11
<i>American Indian or Alaska Native</i>	28	3.65
<i>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (Original Peoples)</i>	9	1.17



1e. Please indicate your parents' level of education:

	Votes	%
<i>Both parents attended college</i>	617	80.34
<i>One parent attended college</i>	87	11.33
<i>Neither parent attended college</i>	64	8.33

1f. Are you an international student?

	Votes	%
<i>No</i>	711	92.58
<i>Yes</i>	57	7.42

Summary of International Respondents:

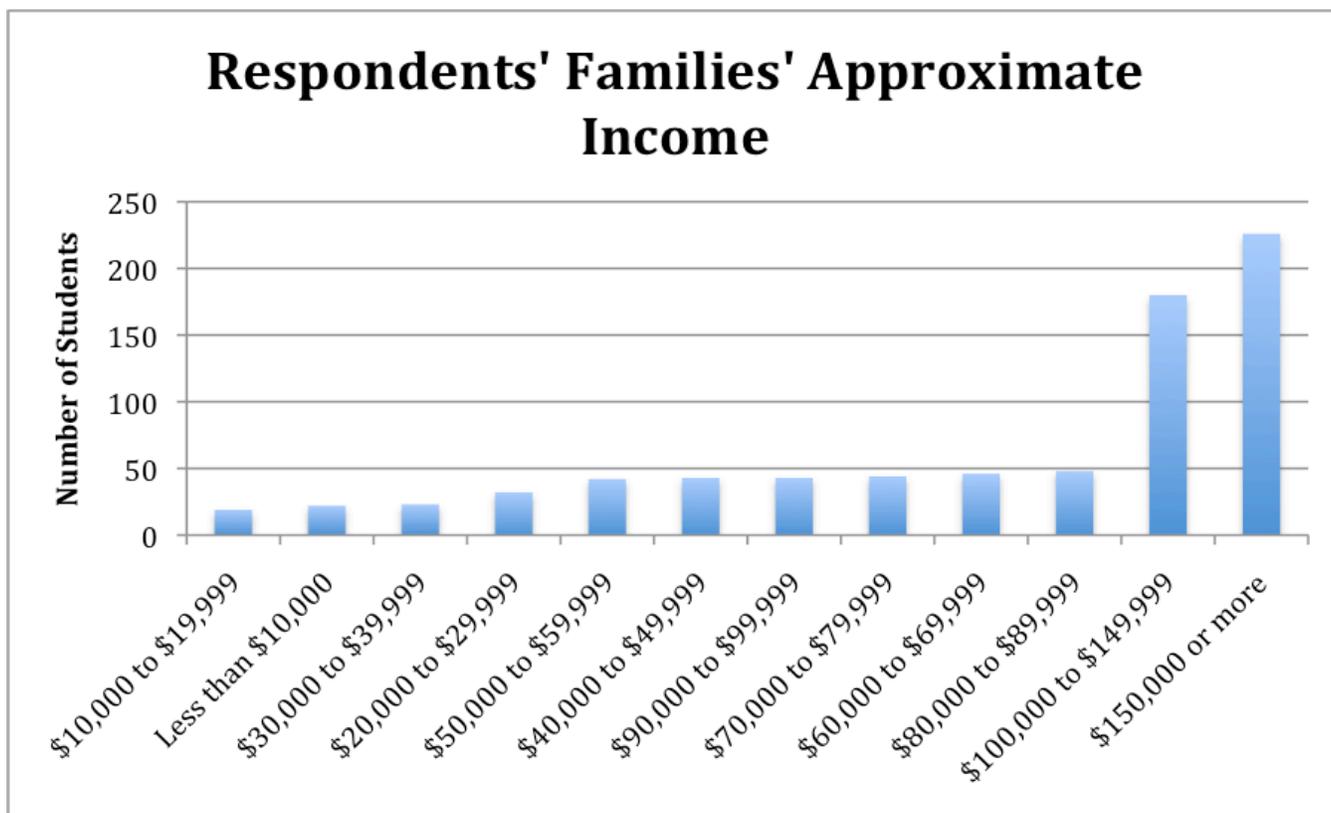
Though a small number of respondents, the percentage is actually very close to the percentage of international students at Haverford (approximately 8%).

1g. Are you the first in your immediate family to grow up in the United States?

	Votes	%
<i>No</i>	670	87.24
<i>Yes</i>	98	12.76

1h. What is your family’s (approximate) yearly income?

	Votes	%
<i>Less than \$10,000</i>	22	2.86
<i>\$10,000 to \$19,999</i>	19	2.47
<i>\$20,000 to \$29,999</i>	32	4.17
<i>\$30,000 to \$39,999</i>	23	2.99
<i>\$40,000 to \$49,999</i>	43	5.6
<i>\$50,000 to \$59,999</i>	42	5.47
<i>\$60,000 to \$69,999</i>	46	5.99
<i>\$70,000 to \$79,999</i>	44	5.73
<i>\$80,000 to \$89,999</i>	48	6.25
<i>\$90,000 to \$99,999</i>	43	5.6
<i>\$100,000 to 149,999</i>	180	23.44
<i>\$150,000 or more</i>	226	29.43



Summary of Family Approximate Income:

Mean: 90,000-99,999

Median: 100,000 – 149,999

The majority of respondents are in the income range that would be most impacted by potential changes to the financial aid policies (above \$100,000). This may contribute to some of the answers we gathered further down in the survey. Note: Income increments are not the same.

2a. Are you on financial aid?

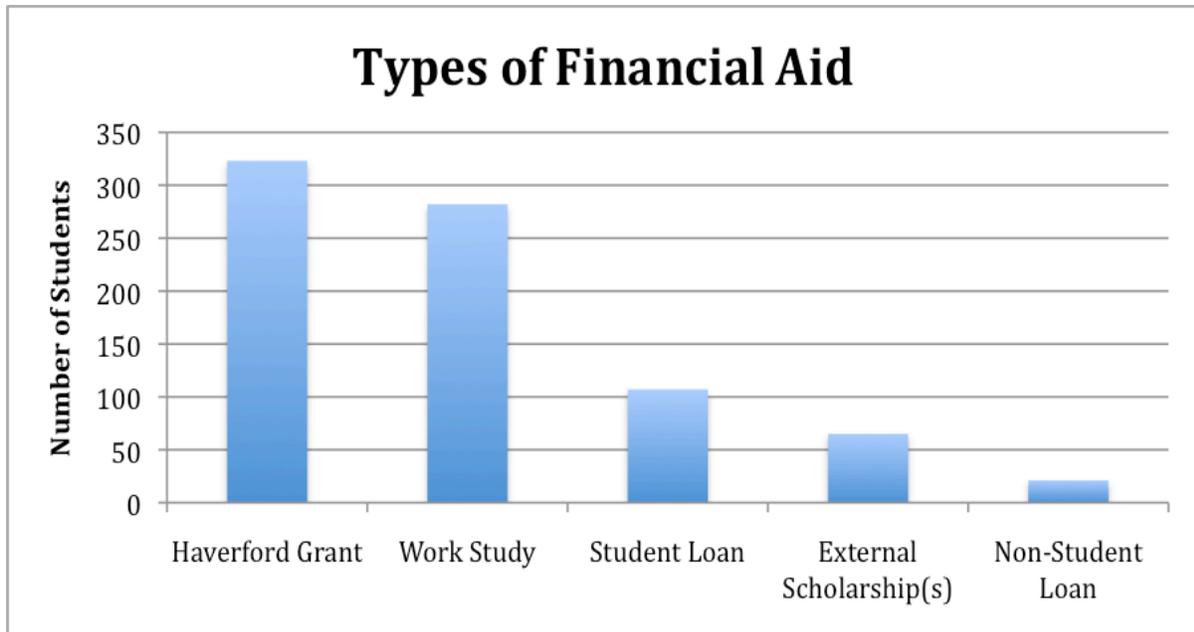
	Votes	%
<i>Yes</i>	400	52.08
<i>No</i>	368	47.92

Summary of Respondents on Financial Aid:

The number of respondents either on or off financial aid is roughly equal. This is close to the actual number of students on aid at Haverford, and shows interest from the student body as a whole in the College’s financial aid policies.

2b. What kinds of financial aid are you on?

	Votes	%
<i>Haverford Grant</i>	323	93.08
<i>Work Study</i>	282	81.27
<i>Student Loan</i>	107	30.84
<i>External Scholarship(s)</i>	65	18.73
<i>Non-Student Loan</i>	21	6.05

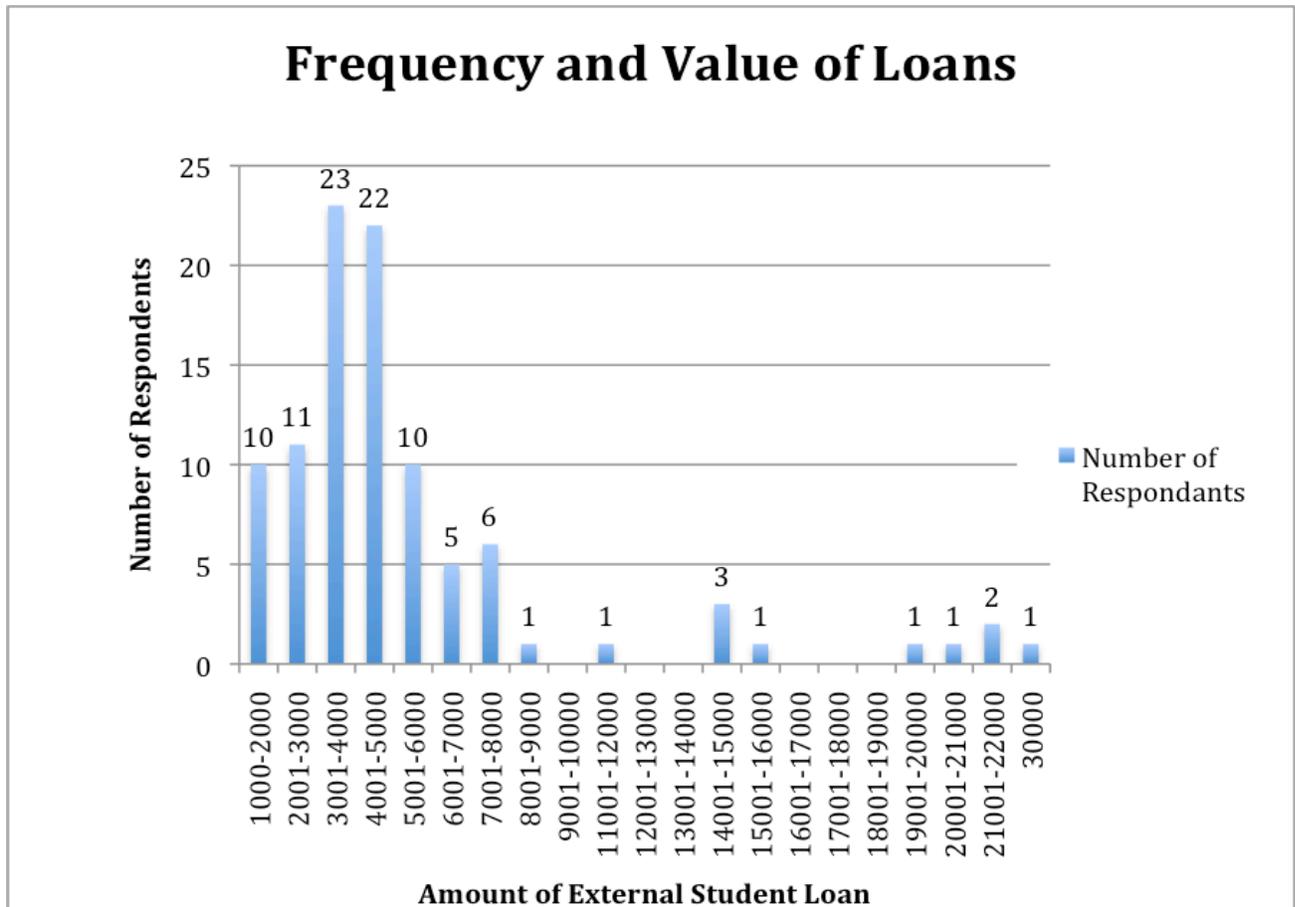


Summary of Types of Financial Aid:

Unsurprisingly, the most utilized forms of aid are the two components of the Haverford financial aid package, which students can then supplement with the other three forms. The number of students who have taken out a non-student loan is very low. This suggests that Haverford’s financial aid policies meet the vast majority of families’ financial needs.

3a. Do you have a student loan? If so, what is its amount?

	Votes	%
Yes	124	35.73
No	223	64.27



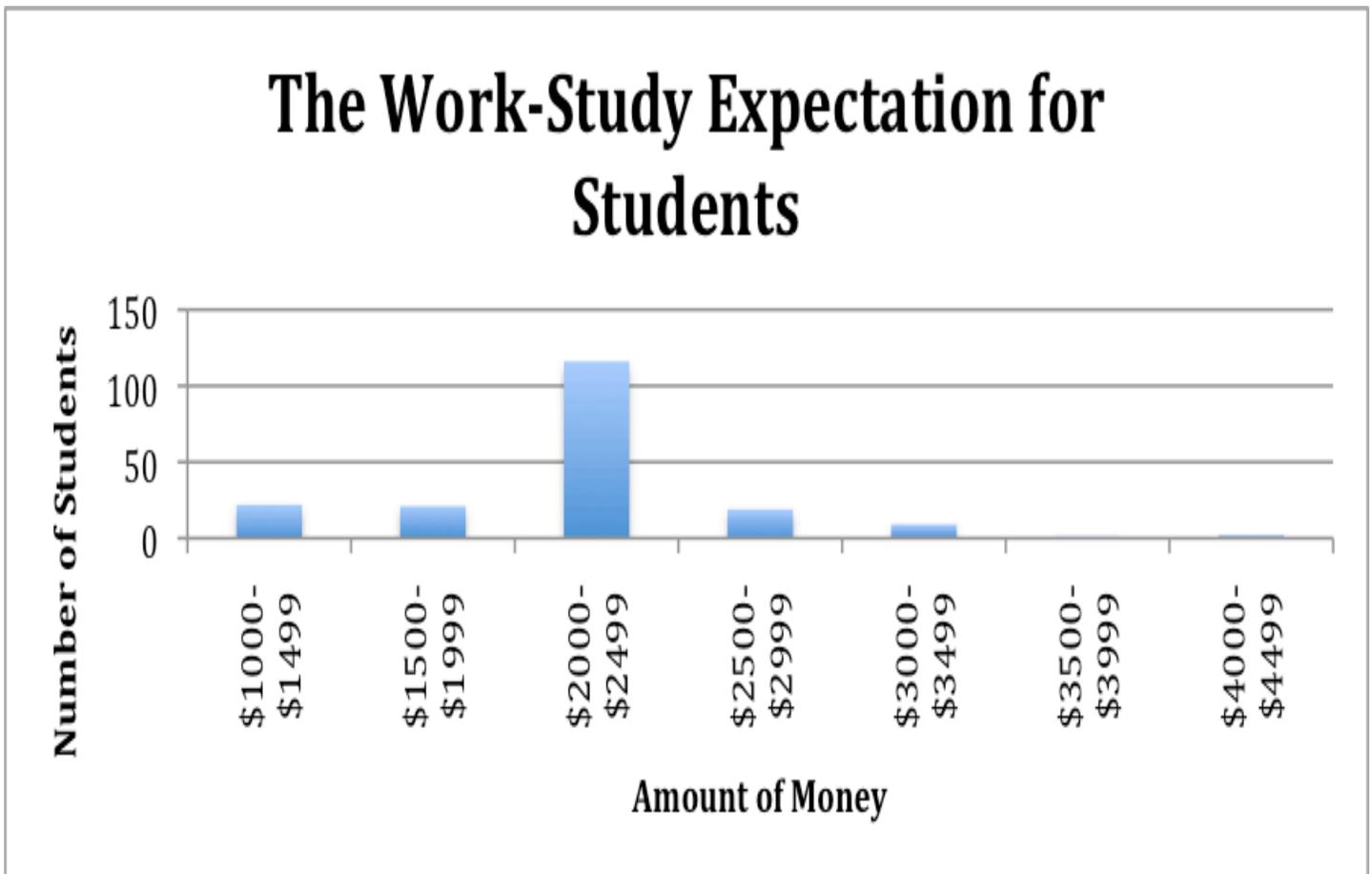
Summary of Student Loans:

Roughly 36% of students on financial aid decide to take out an external student loan in addition to their financial aid package from Haverford. Of these, the majority are loans of under \$8,500, with about \$4,000 being the most common of all.

3b. Do you have a work-study expectation? If so, what is its amount?

	Votes	%
<i>Yes</i>	245	70.61
<i>I don't know</i>	60	17.29
<i>No</i>	42	12.1

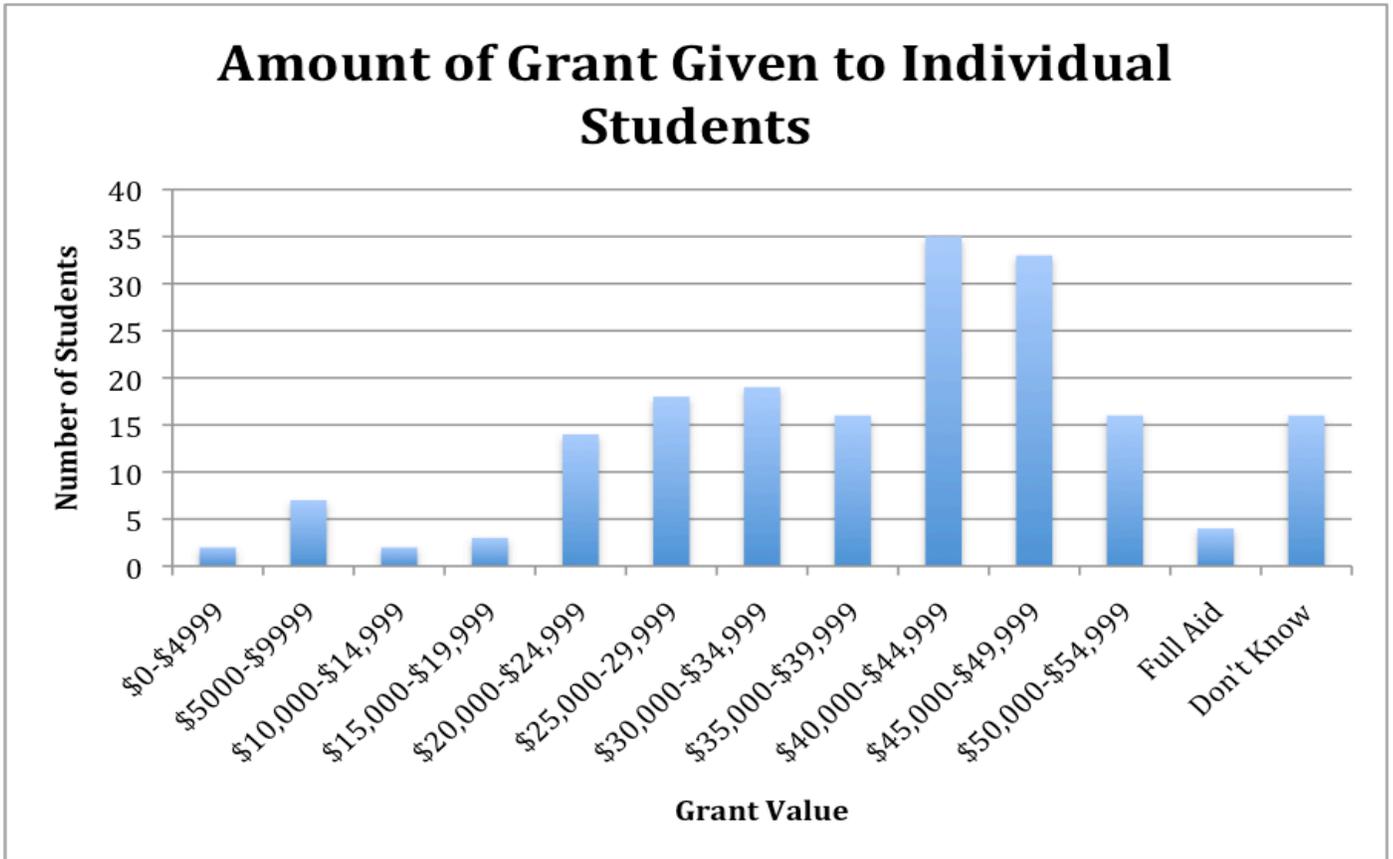
<i>Work-Study Expectation</i>						
\$1000- \$1499	\$1500- \$1999	\$2000- \$2499	\$2500- \$2999	\$3000- \$3499	\$3500- \$3999	\$4000- \$4499
22	21	116	19	9	1	2



Note: The work-study expectation is in fact the same for every student on aid. Students who answered otherwise either didn't understand the question or didn't know their amount.

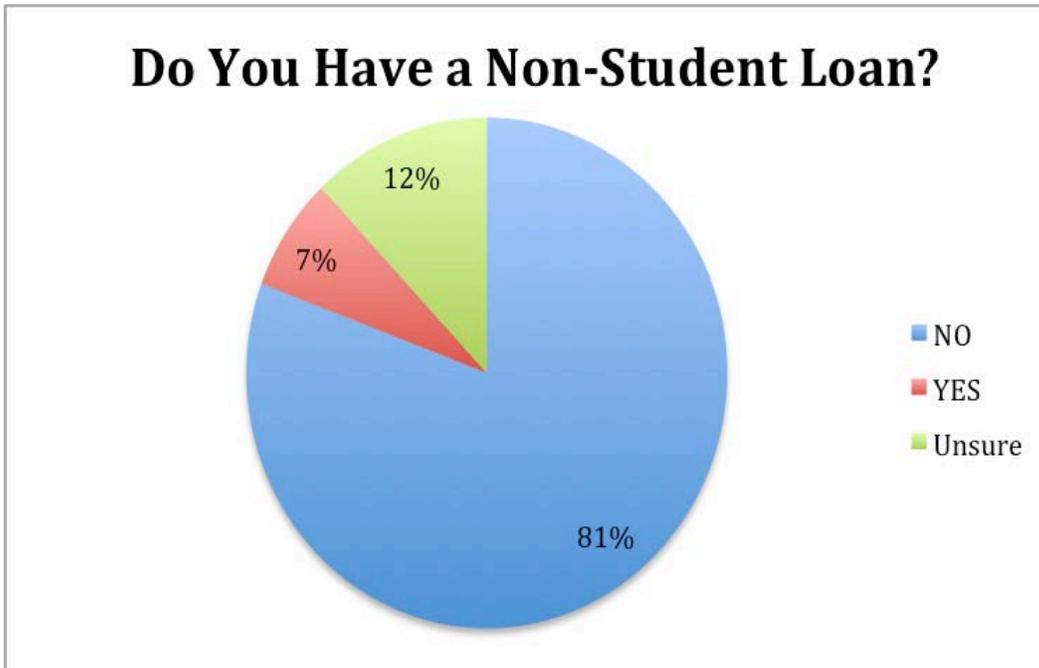
3c. Do you have a grant? If so, what is its amount for the year?

	Votes	%
<i>Yes</i>	257	74.06
<i>I don't know</i>	68	19.6
<i>No</i>	22	6.34



3d. Do you have a non-student loan? If so, what is the amount?

	Votes	%
<i>Yes</i>	280	80.69
<i>I don't know</i>	42	12.1
<i>No</i>	25	7.2

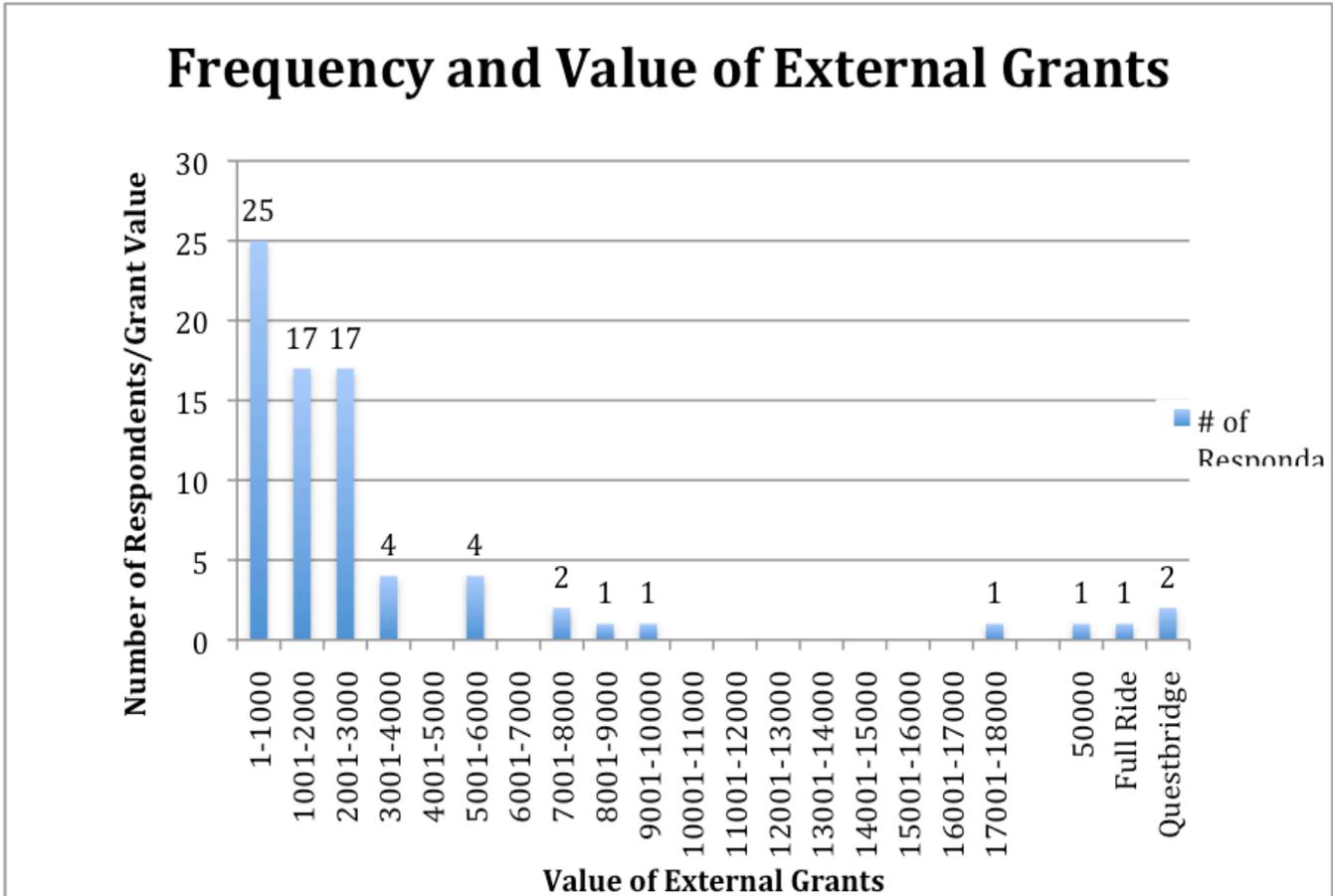


Summary of Non-Student Loans:

The vast majority does not have non-student loans. Though they or their families could be taking out other loans, this seems to indicate that Haverford's generous financial aid policies and external scholarships allow students to not feel the need to take out extra loans.

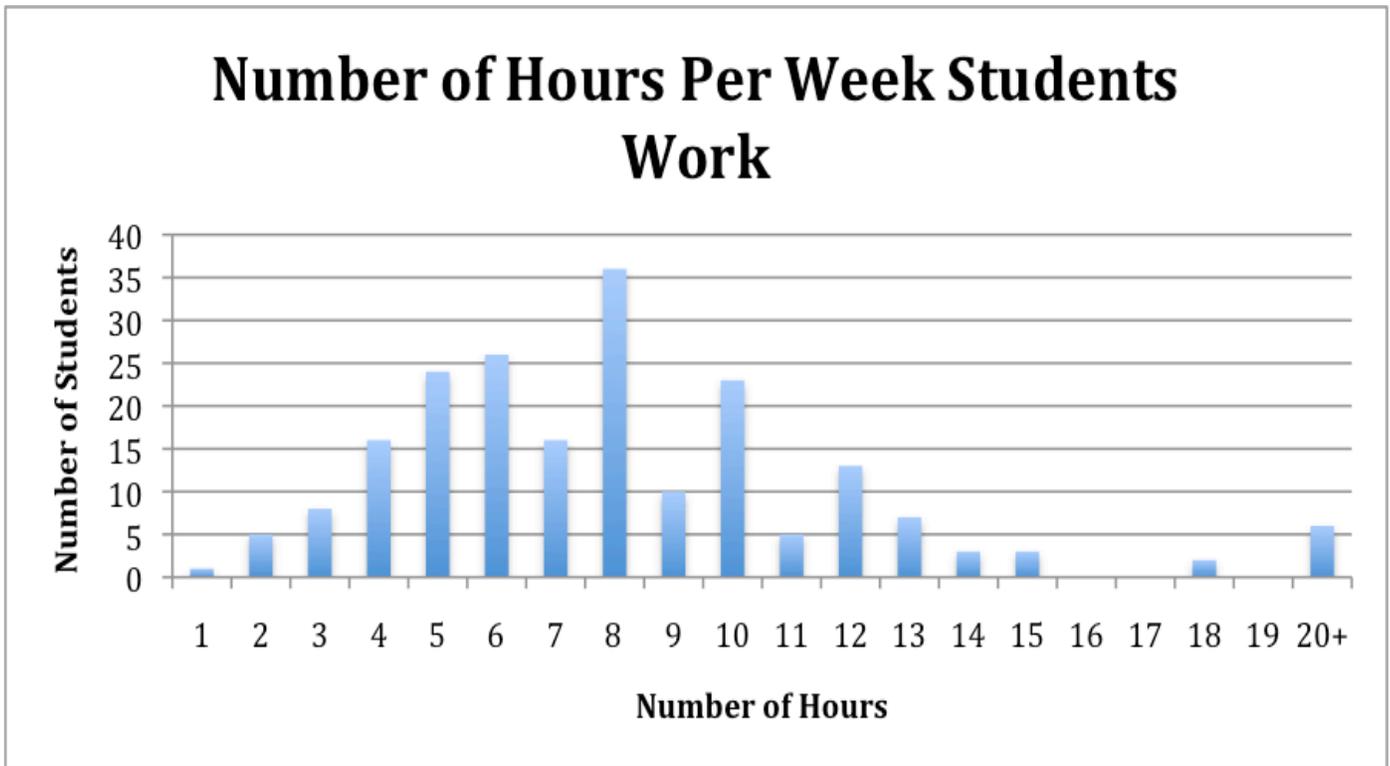
3e. Do you have an external scholarship(s)? If so, what is its amount?

	Votes	%
<i>No</i>	245	73.2
<i>Yes</i>	77	22.19
<i>I don't know</i>	16	4.61



4. Do you participate in the work-study program? If so how many hours per week (on average) do you work?

	Votes	%
Yes	259	74.64
No	88	25.36



Mean: 8.059

Median: 8

5. Do you have an off-campus job? If so, how many hours per week (on average) do you work?

	Votes	%
No	313	90.2
Yes	34	9.8

Summary of Off-Campus Job:

It's worth keeping in mind that students on work-study are guaranteed a job on campus.

6. Why do you have an off-campus job?

Summary:

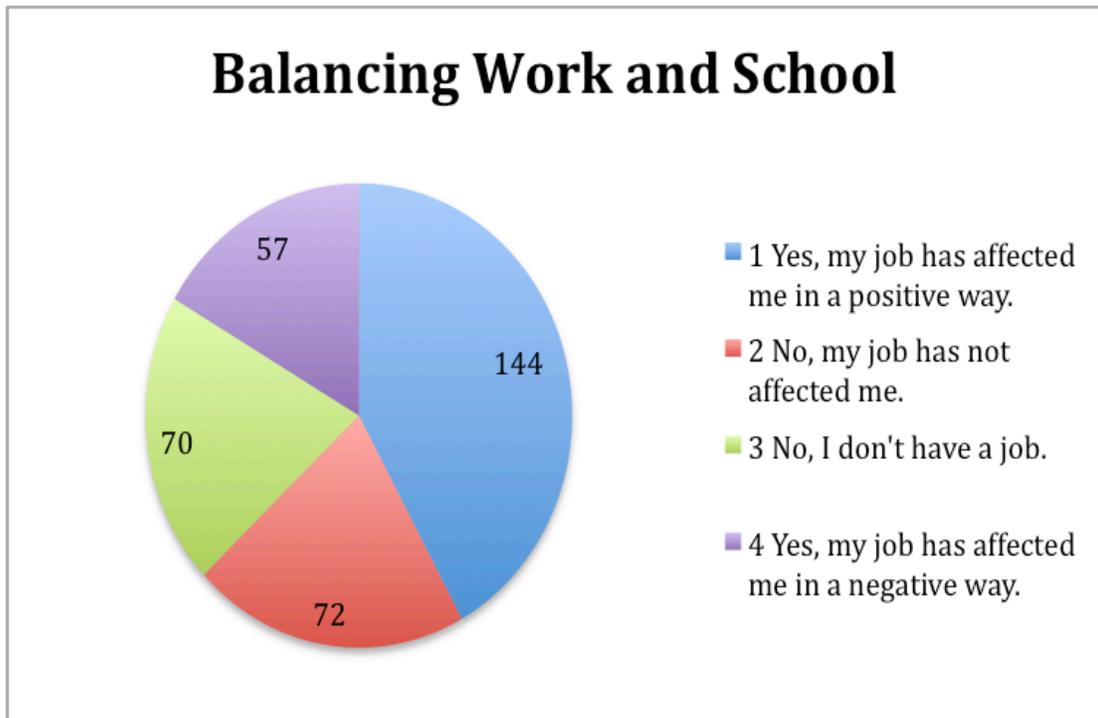
Most student who do have an off-campus job have one either to make extra money (often without taxes, as from babysitting) or for experience in a field in which they are interested in working in the future.

Selection of Students' Comments:

Because I am paying for school expenses on my own
I needed a supplementary income source in addition to my on-campus job
I need the money. I'm paying for school without my parents' help.
Because taxes don't get taken out of babysitting and I need the extra cash to help pay for travel home.
Because I need spending money since all of my work study money goes to my parents for tuition as well as all the money I make working over the summers.
I am not allowed to by migration laws.
The internship relates to my career interests and provides real-world working experience in my field. I wish there was a way to get funding for the time I spend doing this work.
I wasn't hired by any work study jobs on campus. Plus, they pay me more than I would make here.

7. Has your work study and/or off-campus job influenced your academics in any way – such as affecting your grades, teaching you facts or academic skills, or providing beneficial or detrimental experiences?

	Votes	%
<i>Yes, my job has affected me in a positive way.</i>	144	41.98
<i>No, my job has not affected me.</i>	72	20.99
<i>No, I don't have a job.</i>	70	20.41
<i>Yes, my job has affected me in a negative way</i>	57	16.62

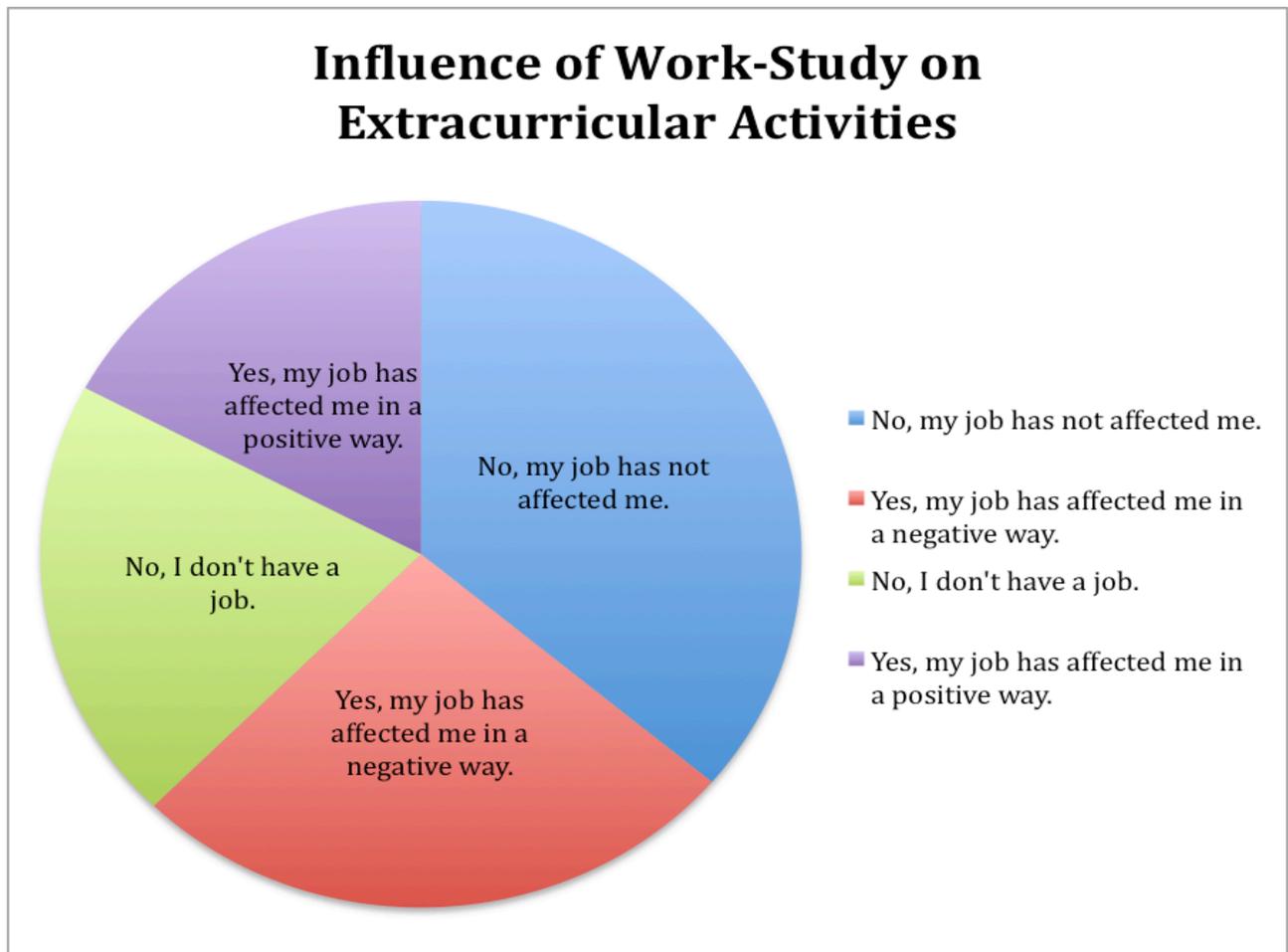


Summary of Balancing Work and School:

Both in comments and in the graph above, students with jobs (both on and off campus) have overwhelmingly positive experiences. Students write of learning technical computer and networking skill in IITS, becoming more aware of academic resources and research skills through work at the library and as research assistants, and discovering new potential career paths. They also appreciate the chance to get to know different members of the community or escape the “Haverbubble” altogether. However, the number one negative comment was that their jobs take away from their studying or socializing time. The vast majority of students who had such a comment also acknowledged that there jobs weren’t necessarily detrimental, but something to consider when managing time. A few students did say that their jobs made them unable to get as involved in extracurriculars as other students.

8. Has your work-study and/or off-campus job influenced your extra-curricular activities in any way – such as limiting your involvement or providing beneficial or detrimental experiences, opportunities, or skills?

	Votes	%
<i>No, my job has not affected me.</i>	124	36.15
<i>Yes, my job has affected me in a negative way.</i>	90	26.24
<i>No, I don't have a job.</i>	70	20.41
<i>Yes, my job has affected me in a positive way.</i>	59	17.2



Summary of Student's Comments:

Most students wrote that their work-study job did limit their extracurricular activities. Responses varied as to the degree to which working whilst a student limited the range of activities in which they could participate. Students cited the benefits of having a job (work experience, learning new skills, meeting new people) as a factor that sometimes outweighed the limitations a work-study position imposed. Some students reported having to quit an athletic team because of their job whilst others stated that they successfully balanced athletics, academics, and work-study.

9. Do you think that you need to have an off-campus job in order to support yourself?

	Votes	%
<i>No</i>	281	81.92
<i>Yes</i>	62	18.08

Summary of Student's Comments:

Respondents generally think that \$9/hour working one or two jobs is not enough money to earn the work study contribution, especially when considering how many hours it would require to earn that much money each year either due to limited available hours at one's job and/or the pay rate. Several students also remarked that they can find higher pay at off-campus jobs. Students who do not feel the need to get a job off-campus would first explore the possibility of working more hours at their current job.

10. Of the following statements, please indicate how you feel on a scale of 1-7, with 1 being “strongly disagree” and 7 being “strongly agree”.

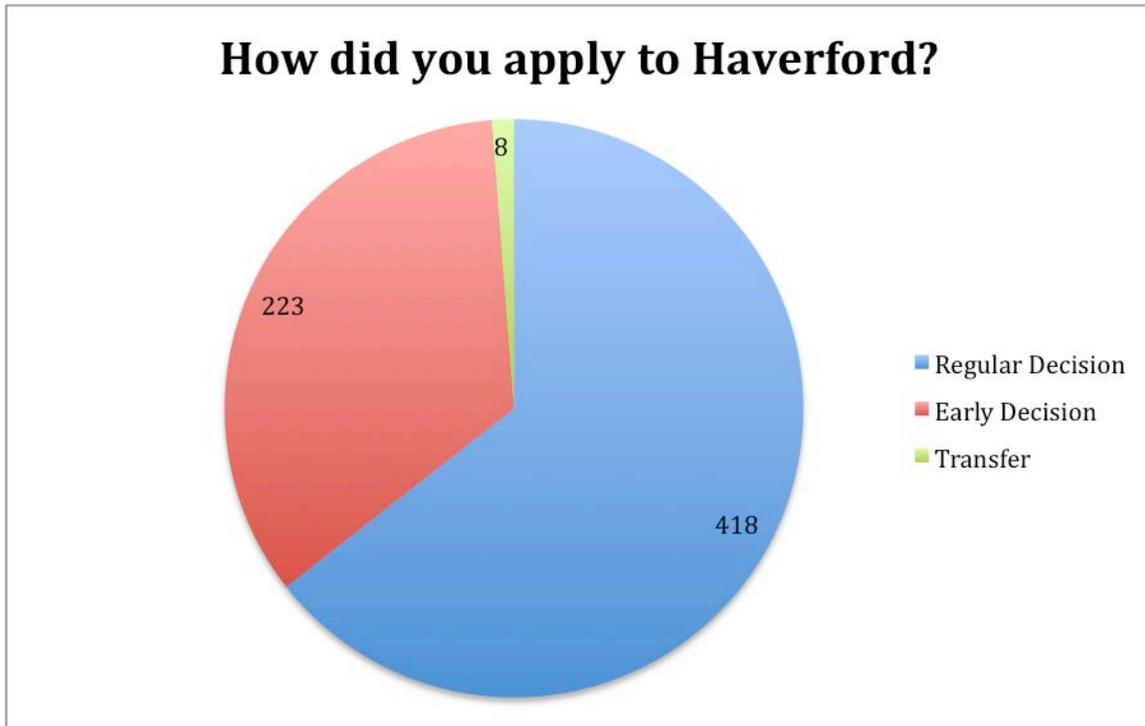
Statement	Average Answer	# Answered "N/A"	% Answered "N/A"
Having debt from student loans would have (or has) a significant impact on my post-graduation plans.	6.04	29	8.66%
Had I received a smaller financial aid package, I would not have chosen Haverford.	5.66	19	5.67%
The no-loan policy has enabled me to work fewer hours (either on or off-campus).	5.47	71	21.26%
My family has had to make sacrifices in their life-style in order to fund my tuition and college expenses.	5.11	13	3.87%
If I did not have a work study job, I would work at an off-campus job.	4.88	86	25.67%
My on campus work experience has enhanced my academic interests and/or pursuits.	4.3	55	16.37%
My off-campus work experience has enhanced my academic interests and/or pursuits.	4.13	254	75.60%
Had loans been included in my financial aid package, I would still have chosen Haverford.	3.71	17	5.07%
If I could, I would work more hours off-campus.	3.61	151	45.21%
My on campus work experience has detracted from my academic studies.	3.6	51	15.22%
My off-campus work experience has detracted from my academic studies.	3.58	263	78.51%
I need an off-campus job because I cannot make enough money on campus through work study.	3.35	175	52.08%

Summary of Reactions to Work Experience:

In the comments section, many respondents wrote that their work-study had both positive and negative effects.

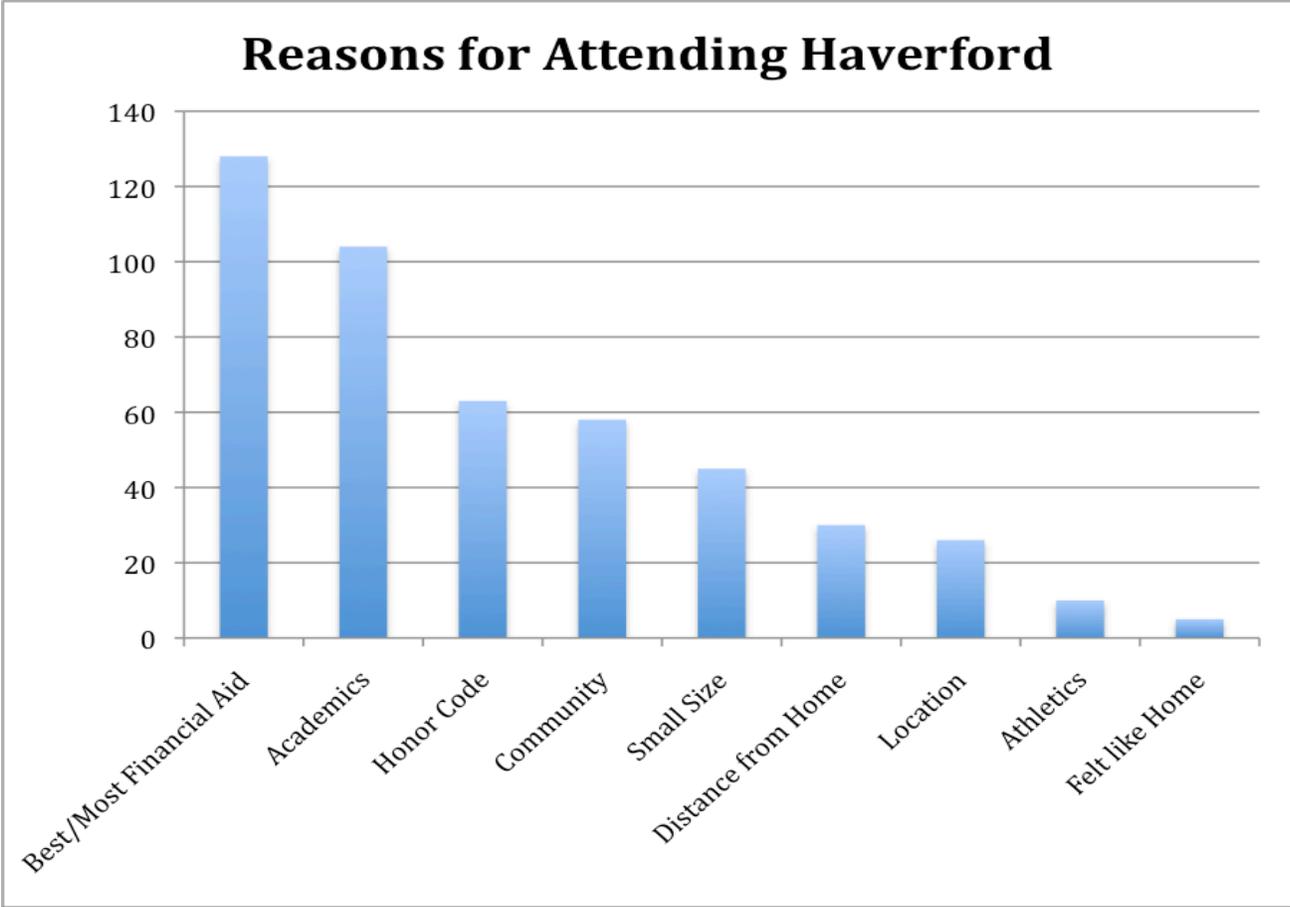
11. How did you apply to Haverford?

	Votes	%
<i>Regular Decision</i>	418	64.41
<i>Early Decision</i>	223	34.36
<i>Transfer</i>	8	1.23



12. Were you accepted to other schools? If so, why did you choose to attend Haverford?

	Votes	%
<i>I was accepted to other schools</i>	465	71.65
<i>I was not accepted to other schools (includes Early Decision)</i>	184	28.35



Selection of Students' Comments:

I chose Haverford because this school gave me the best financial aid package. In fact, if I did not receive such great financial aid (with no loans), I would probably have needed to move to Lebanon to study where my father is earning the family living. Because my parents are barely paying for my college education, I was able to continue living in the states.
Community and I love nerds.
Integrity offered by Honor Code; rigorous academics; tremendous environment.
Strong financial aid package -- I was first admitted to the class of 2011, and am currently finishing my 8th semester as a Haverford student, will also complete next spring semester as a 9th -- thus loans were indeed included in my package. But ultimately it was less expensive for me to attend Haverford than the in-state tuition rates I was offered (in VA).
Haverford is unique in its harboring an environment in which practically everyone loves learning for learning's sake.
I felt that I fit better at Haverford than my other top options, AND I got a better financial package

Rigorous academics without the nauseating sense of self-importance and pretension that permeates other elite colleges.

I felt the atmosphere, whether academic, extracurricular, social, whatever, at Haverford was perfect for me. It also very much helped that I got an excellent financial aid package, better than any other university I applied to.

13. Regardless of whether you qualified for aid, did Haverford's financial aid policies in general influence your decision to apply/attend?

	Votes	%
<i>Yes</i>	333	51.31
<i>No</i>	316	48.69

Summary of Financial Aid Policies on Application and Matriculation Decisions:

Over half of those who responded, which included those not on aid, said that Haverford's financial aid policies influence their decision to apply and attend. This demonstrates that the policies have a significant impact on people's decisions, regardless of their financial need.

14. Did Haverford's need-blind policy influence your decision to apply/attend?

Selection of Students' Comments:

If Haverford had not had this policy, I would have assumed that the school would not have been willing to support me financially, and I probably would not have applied. Without the aid, I would probably not have chosen Haverford. I think Haverford is already not the most diverse student body, and that this policy allows for a more economically and therefore socially diverse student body than the school would have otherwise. Having students from all over the economic and social spectrum is very important, as it teaches provides a sample of the world outside the bubble.

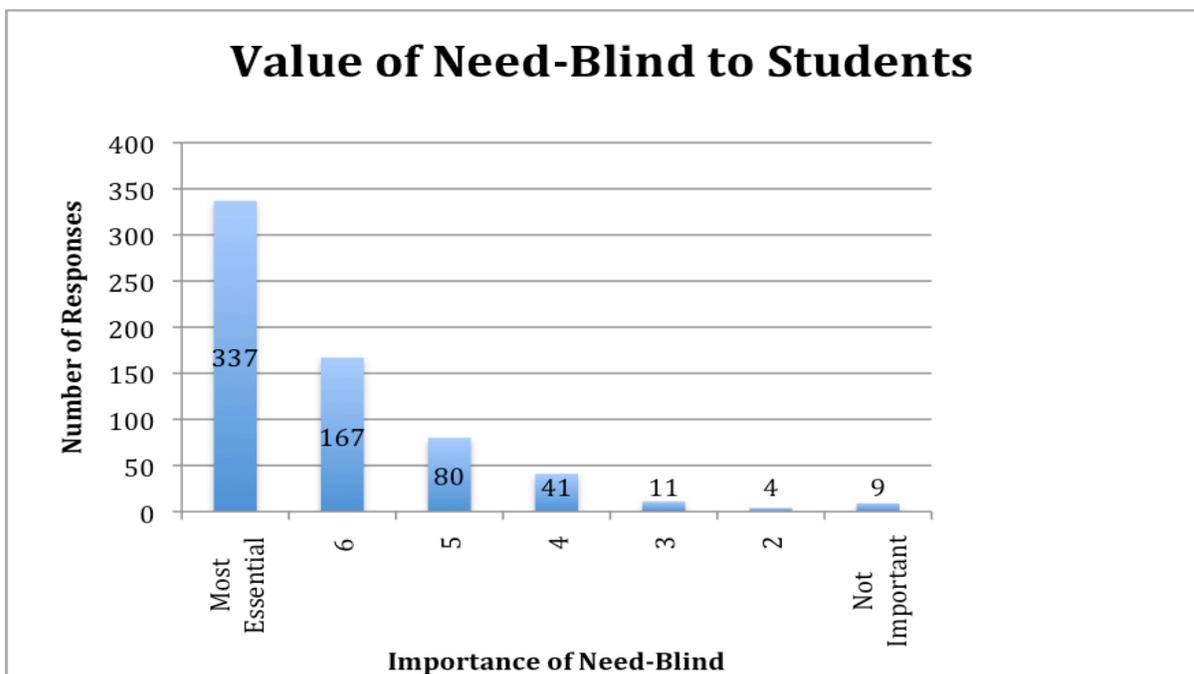
It made me feel more confident about applying to a college that would accept me solely on my academic performance in high school, which to me is the only thing that matters in accepting students.

I think (and thought at the time) that Haverford's need-blind policy showed the school's integrity. It showed that I would be surrounded by a community that did not exclude students from families who could not pay for an expensive liberal arts education in its entirety. Haverford claims to be an inclusive community, and without the need-blind policy, this community would be excluding large parts of the population and would not benefit from the contribution that students from diverse backgrounds have to offer.

<p>Though I knew I would not qualify for financial aid it was important to me to go to a school that admitted students regardless of their socio-economic status. If higher education is not made equally affordable to all segments of society the already huge socio-economic gap in America will only continue to widen. Class mobility and "equal opportunity" have already been become too much of an illusory ideal.</p>
<p>I think it helps level some of the inequalities that exist in access to higher ed.</p>
<p>Although I am not on financial aid, I really wanted to attend a college where students come from a variety of socio-economical backgrounds, and while I was tempted to go to other schools that offered me scholarships, I figured that this way the money was allowing students who wouldn't otherwise be able to attend Haverford to do so, in turn benefiting my experience.</p>
<p>At the time I was applying, in the middle of the financial crisis when school's budgets were getting squeezed, I was proud that the school I was applying early to had announced that they were keeping their need-blind policy in place. It's something I had already discussed with my parents and had decided it was important to me, so I was glad to know that it was important to the school as well.</p>
<p>I wouldn't be able to afford Haverford without financial aid. Given that its not really in any institution's best economic interest to have a large percentage of the student body on financial aid, if the admission process had not been need blind, I worry that my chances of being accepted would have been significantly decreased.</p>
<p>My family is extremely poor, knowing that I could afford Haverford was the best thing to happen for me.</p>
<p>I would have questioned whether Haverford upheld its image of social justice if Haverford was not need-blind.</p>
<p>It kind of influenced my decision because it convinced me that Haverford is not an elitist institution.</p>

**15. How important do you think need-blind is to creating the Haverford community?
Rate on a scale of 1-7, with 1 being “not important” and 7 being “essential.”**

	Votes	%
<i>Essential (7)</i>	337	51.93
6	167	25.73
5	80	12.33
4	41	6.32
3	11	1.69
2	4	0.62
<i>Not Important (1)</i>	9	1.39



Summary of the Value of the Need-Blind Policy:

There is no question that students love the need-blind policy and what it represents. They also feel very strongly that it should not change in any way, as this would be a detriment to the quality of students able to apply to or attend Haverford, and would go against Haverford’s values and Quaker heritage. Many students noted that they saw a connection between the need-blind policy and the Honor Code and that a Haverford without need-blind would not be a true Haverford committed to social justice and providing and excellent education and opportunities to those who are intelligent and want to be a part of our community. Students also emphasized the importance to all students to be able to go to a school that is socio-economically as well as racially diverse, and how their interactions with people from different backgrounds have enriched their education. Countless students say that it enabled them to come to Haverford, and/or that they would not want to be a Haverford without this policy. A small number of students said that they did not think the policy had a significant impact on the quality or diversity of the community.

Selection of Students' Comments:

<p>Instead of creating a community based on economic circumstances, Haverford is able to draw people from different backgrounds and perspectives. This makes for a more diverse and thus richer college/learning experience.</p>
<p>Students are accepted 100% based on merit, which means every student at Haverford is equally deserving, creating a community of similar standards</p>
<p>I do not think a need-blind admissions policy helps create the Haverford community. It is the type of student that creates the community</p>
<p>Without the need-blind policy, Haverford fails to live up to the standards it sets for itself. The Haverford community is one where all students are equal, no matter what their families economic situation is, their race and creed, and their beliefs. Without this policy, a segment of the population could be excluded from admission due to an inability to pay for all of tuition. This significantly limits the quality of students who can attend Haverford.</p>
<p>I am a first-generation college student -- my father died when I was 10, and my mother has worked tirelessly to send me to my dream school - wherever that might be. She would likely have sent me to Haverford even if the financial aid package had not been a dream come true, but my own guilt would have kept me from attending. I am fortunate enough to owe Haverford relatively little per year and am truly grateful every single day for the amazing opportunity that I've been afforded (literally) thanks to Haverford's financial aid policy.</p>
<p>Haverford is a community founded on excellence, and excellent minds come from all economic backgrounds.</p>
<p>Sure, it's pretty much impossible to give everyone a level playing field when applying to college, given that the circumstances people are born into shape their access to the kind of education that opens the door to schools like this, but it seems like Haverford's need-blind policy goes a long way toward bringing students with a diversity of backgrounds into the same space. Education doesn't mean a thing if it takes place inside some ivory tower which only people of a certain financial standing can access. Though the Haverbubble is still a Haverbubble in a lot of ways, the need-blind policy makes sure that the membrane is as permeable as the college can make it in lieu of massive, external social change. I know I'm damn lucky to get this education, and I don't think anyone should be denied the same opportunity on account of money.</p>
<p>Economic diversity on campus has broadened my mind while on campus and, if anything, I wish that there was more, not less. Also many of the people whom I have met and whose opinions have changed me may not be here without need blind admission. The principles encapsulated in need-blind admission are qualities that I think are fundamental to what distinguishes Haverford from other excellent educational institutions. If other schools were to keep need-blind policies and Haverford did not, this institution would be a paradox in relation to its core principles.</p>
<p>Being admitted based at least partially on ability to pay is so anti-quaker values, so anti-egalitarian, so anti-social justice, and overall is exactly the opposite of how I see Haverford. Therefore, need-blind is essential to creating the Haverford community (this is especially true given how many of how peer institutions have it).</p>

16. Are you aware of Haverford's no-loan policy?

	Votes	%
Yes	432	71.76
No	170	28.24

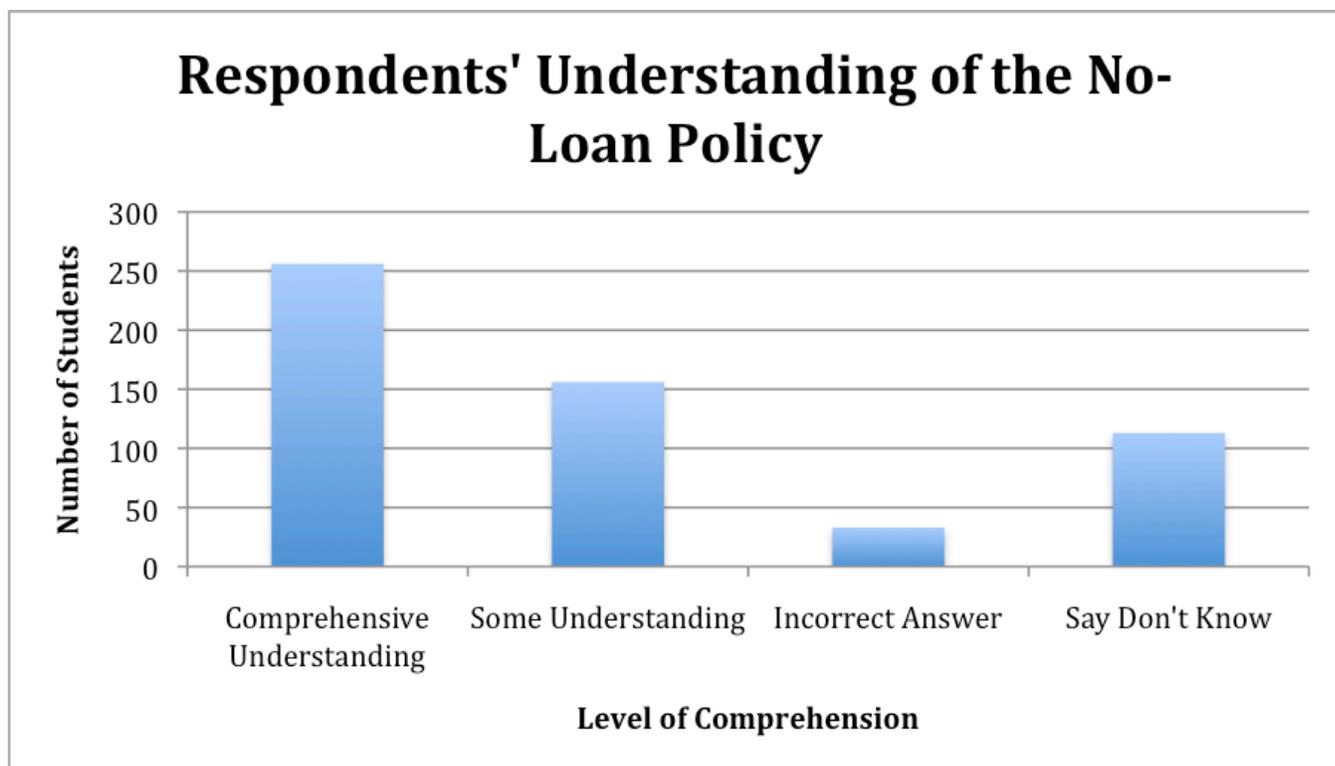
17. What, to your understanding, is the no-loan policy?

Summary of Students' Responses:

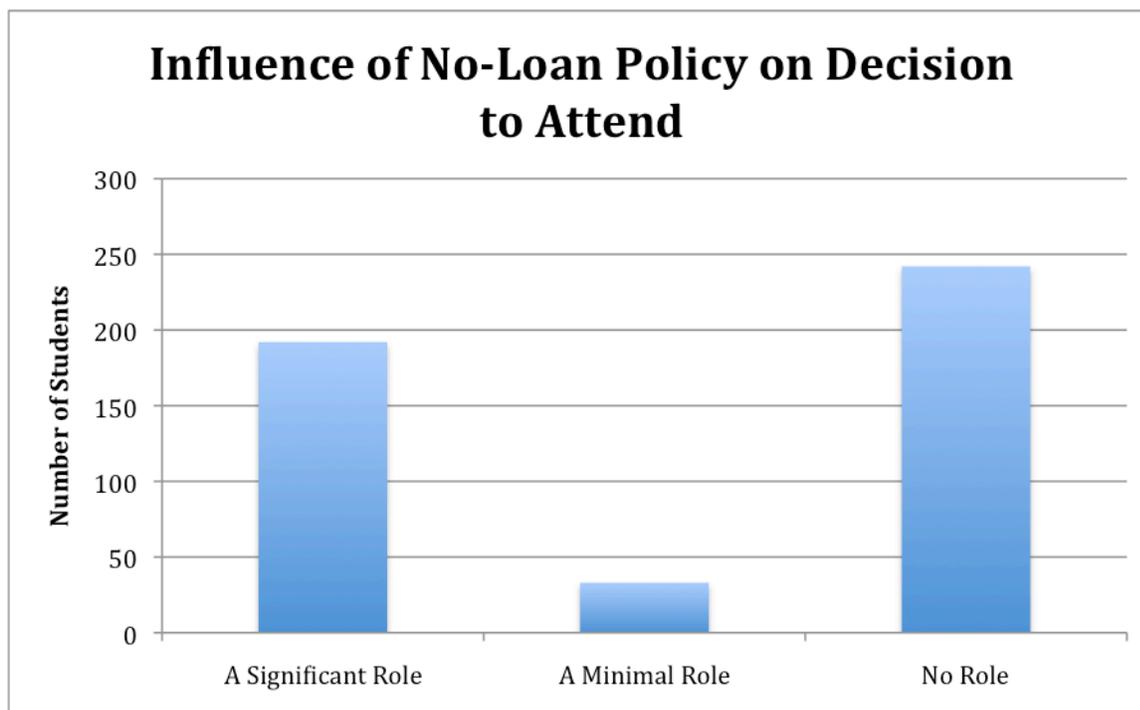
The majority of students provided an accurate and comprehensive explanation of Haverford's no-loan policy (see chart below). Some students had a partial understanding of the policy, whilst other students provided an incorrect definition of the policy. Another group of students stated that they did not know what the policy was about at all.

Of the students who understood what the no-loan policy meant, many commented on how it allowed students to graduate without heavy debt burdens. Many cited this as extremely beneficial, especially for those who wanted to pursue post-graduate education.

A fair number of students mentioned that the generosity of the no-loan policy gave them a sense of loyalty to the institution. These students mentioned the possibility of donating when they were more financially stable in order to give back to the college since it had given them grants.



18. What role, if any, did the no-loan policy play in your ability to attend Haverford?



Summary of the Influence of No-Loan on Decision to Attend:

All of those who took the survey, regardless of whether they said they were on financial aid or not, answered this question. This explains why nearly half of students said that the no-loan policy to not affect their decision to attend Haverford; nearly half of the respondents are not on financial aid. Of those who said that the no-loan policy did have an impact on their decision, many wrote that they would not have come to Haverford if they had been forced to take out a loan.

Selection of Students' Comments:

I probably would have attended Haverford anyway, but it is probably the most important thing that has ever happened to my financial life. I thought I would be graduating with tens of thousands of dollars of student debt. Instead I am graduating with \$5500 of student debt. Thank you.
The no-loan policy played a huge role in my attending Haverford. It allowed both my family and I to be on the same page about Haverford being a good choice
My parents struggle financially so to be able to tell them that they wouldn't have to take huge loans out for me to go to school was a grand stress reliever for them.
Money was definitely an issue for me as I was deciding among schools, and I was able to go to Haverford because I felt I could trust I would not have big financial worries down the road.
The no-loan policy did not play a large role in my ability to attend Haverford but I do think in terms of peace of mind for the students here, it's essential

Haverford was top of my list for other reasons, but loans may have made me consider a less expensive education.
The no-loan policy played a major role in my ability to attend Haverford. Other schools piled on loans in their financial aid packages, but Haverford did not. My parents cannot afford to contribute any money to my college education, and I am expected to pay for it myself. Haverford's financial aid package with the no-loan policy was the only package I received that would allow me to feasibly pay for my own education.
The no-loan policy played less in my financial decision and more into the appeal of a school that wants every qualified student to be able to attend.

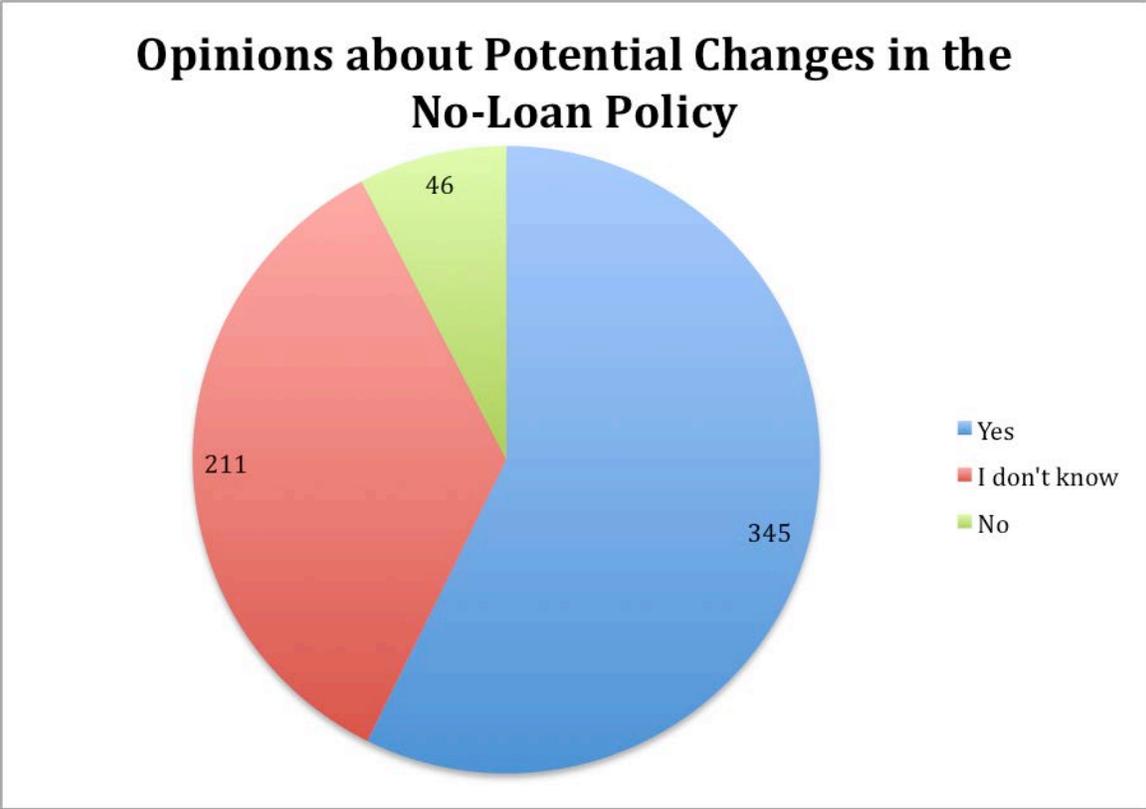
19. Did Haverford’s no-loan policy influence your decision to apply/attend?

Selection of Students’ Comments:

Yes, because I wanted to be in a school where I knew I was surrounded by all qualified students, not just by the students whose families could afford tuition and expensive loans. I also think that the no-loan policy fits within Haverford’s larger mission of preparing students to go out and make change in the world after college. My classmates are better able to make change when they do not have to be concerned about expensive loan payments.
I picked Haverford over similar schools who wanted me to take out large loans. If the financial aid packages from these schools had been identical to Haverford’s, I would not have chosen Haverford.
I thought that it reflected how much care and respect Haverford puts into its students. I can’t say I was forward-thinking enough to realize the concrete consequences for my own future, but it definitely contributed to my positive impression of Haverford and decision to apply.
It was a huge influence. I could attend Haverford without worrying about repaying massive student loans after college. It really made Haverford stand out from other colleges both when applying and in deciding where to go after I got my financial aid packages.
Since I do not have the financial background and stability to be able to pay off large loans and pursue my plans for graduate school, this policy influenced my decision to attend because I knew there was a possibility of graduating from college without owing anyone any money. This would allow me to attend graduate school without any prior debt, which is beneficial because I will probably need loans in graduate school.
Haverford was by far the school with the highest tuition that I applied to. I had no idea if I would be able to afford such high tuition, but the no-loan policy gave me hope, so I applied. To my great joy, Haverford was truthful about this no-loan policy and I really could afford to attend. All of the colleges that cost significantly less than Haverford (some of them even had tuitions that were half the amount of Haverford’s) boasted of their affordability, however, their financial aid packages were inferior to Haverford’s package, so they ended up costing much more.
It was certainly a factor. The policy demonstrates that Haverford cares about the well-being of its students even after graduation, which I appreciate. Graduating without debt also means that I have the freedom to travel and volunteer for a few years after college and before grad school instead of immediately joining the workforce to pay off loans or going straight back to school so that I can keep deferring them. This was a very attractive prospect.

20. If the no-loan policy were to apply only to families making up to \$100,000/year, would you still be able to/would you still have chosen Haverford?

	Votes	%
<i>Yes</i>	345	57.31
<i>I don't know</i>	211	35.05
<i>No</i>	46	7.64



Summary of Opinions on Restricting No-Loan:
Most students would either still be at Haverford, though because a fair number of student are unsure how such a change would affect their package, we can't be sure that the "No" percentage is in fact accurate.

21. What would your reaction be if Haverford did roll back the no-loan policy to families only making up to \$100,000 a year?

The majority of responses to this question indicated that students would be very unhappy if the College chose to take this course of action. These opinions came from students both on and off aid. Some pertinent reasons that students expressed anger at this idea include but are not limited to:

- Thinking it would be too strict a change, as it would not take into account the number of college-going children in the family and what kind of burden that would place on the family and their ability to pay.
- Thinking it would be an unfair policy change, as it would not take into account extenuating financial circumstances that might hinder a family of \$100,000 income to actually pay with loans.
- Anger at a change that they think is not in sync with the College's Quaker values (equality, stewardship, etc.), it's emphasis on the high value the place on their students needs and the quality of students at the College, and the other admission policies.
- Seeing it as inconsistent with the College's emphasis on the importance of social justice work and making sure that students are able to participate in such work.

A handful of students said they would consider transferring. However, many students, though angry or displeased, did express understanding for why such a policy might need to be enacted. Many suggested a more flexible way to cut back that would take into consideration possible extenuating circumstances that a family might have.

The next most common reaction to this question was confusion or the feeling that they did not really know enough about the policy to have an opinion one way or the other. The number of students who were indifferent to such a change was comparable.

Finally, very few students were in favor of such a policy, or were in favor with regrets that such a change might need to be enacted. A number of students did express that if they had to choose between not having a no-loan policy at all or rolling it back to families of \$100,000/year, they would choose the latter.

Selection of Students' Comments:

This would definitely be a little unfair: just because a student's family makes a certain amount of money, doesn't necessarily mean the family will help the student pay off the loans later. However, I do realize that this would be a more realistic option for the school, in order to save some money.
Though it makes sense at first, there are families that make that kind of money for whom loan burden would still be significant. Ultimately, I think that the no-loan policy is an important nod to Haverford's Quaker history and values.
Fine with me, but it seems like \$100,000/year isn't as much money these days, especially if a family is trying to send more than 1 person to college at a time.
I'd be appalled, and I honestly wouldn't be sure how I or my family would be able to

pay for my college education.

I could talk about how I worked way, way more than any other high school student I knew (I, despite my family's financial status, grew up in a rich suburb -- my grandparents paid for our house, enabling us to live there, providing me with the opportunity to study at the best public schools in the district). My mother works 3 jobs to manage to pay the \$4000 that we owe per semester to Haverford, which is a significant chunk of her yearly income, \$8000 of \$22,000. I have a brother, who was also attending a technical college for two years while I was at Haverford. My mom is 57, and I have no idea how old she'll be before she can retire, because she'll be working to pay off the loans that I (as a member of Haverford's class of 2011) still have.

It would be somewhat unfortunate, but it would still leave Haverford with a great financial aid policy.

It depends upon individual circumstance and location. For example, if someone has multiple siblings, all in college, with parents making \$125,000 they would probably be more in need of financial support than a single child home with parents making \$80,000.

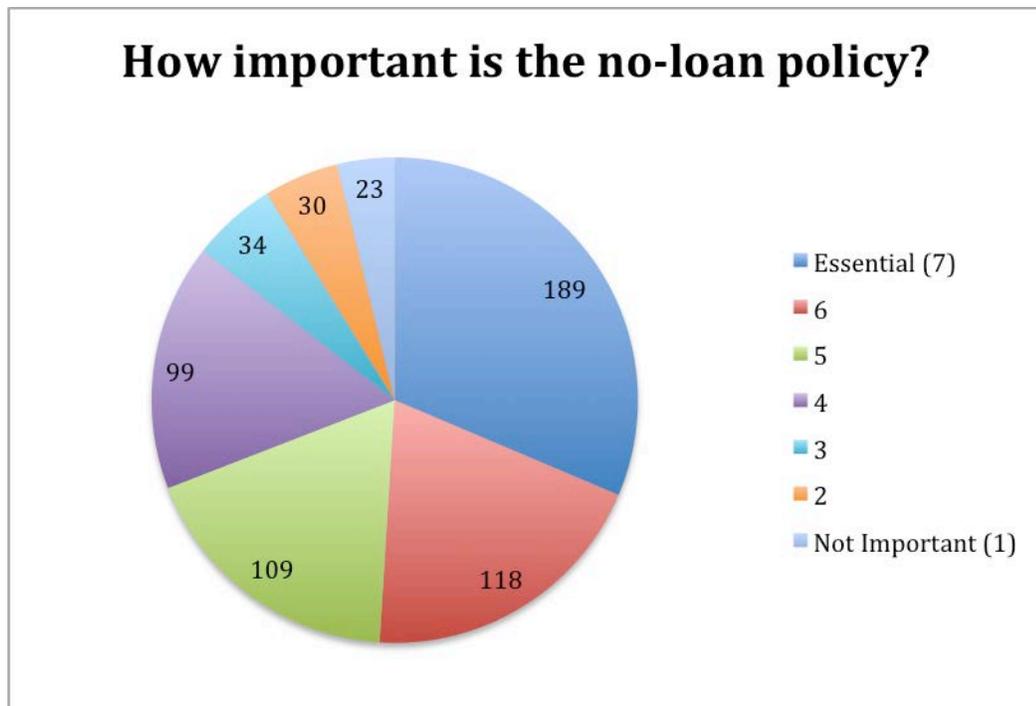
I would be upset- my family makes more than \$100,000 per year, but we still qualify for financial aid. Having to pay loans would potentially influence my post-graduation plans. I'm planning to take a year or two before going to graduate school, and a lot of the jobs/programs I'm interested in are at non-profits. I think I would probably feel the pressure to think about getting a better-paying job if I had to pay off loans.

Deeply Disappointed. This school's priority should be on its students first and alone.

I feel that Haverford should do its best to offer the no-loan policy to any student who would not choose to attend Haverford without this policy in place. However, I know that Haverford must balance its ideals with the economic reality of the times, and I would support a no-loan policy that was offered only to lower-income students above getting rid of the no-loan policy all together.

22. Regardless of whether you are on financial aid, how important is the no-loan policy to you as a part of Haverford culture? Rate on a scale of 1-7, with 1 being “not important” and 7 being “essential.”

	Votes	%
<i>Essential (7)</i>	189	31.4
6	118	19.6
5	109	18.11
4	99	16.45
3	34	5.65
2	30	4.98
<i>Not Important (1)</i>	23	3.82

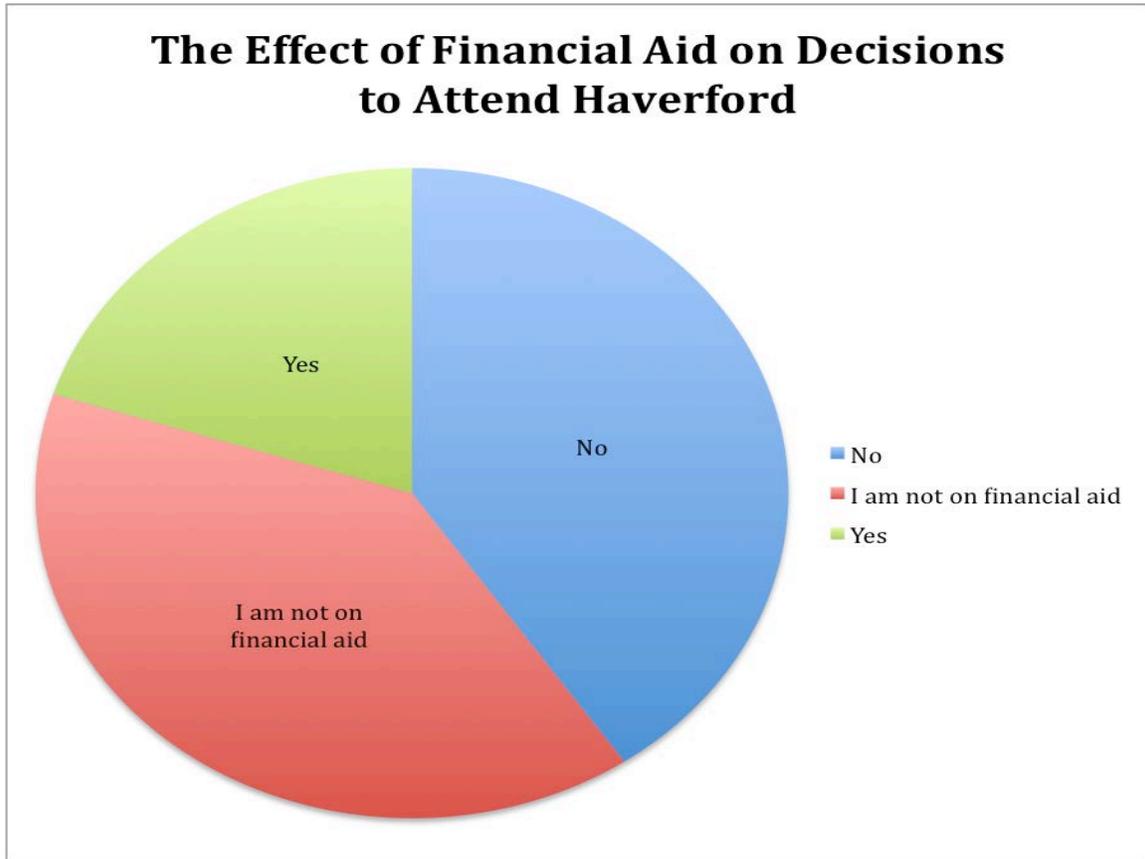


Summary of the Importance of No-Loan:

The vast majority of students feel that the no-loan policy is integral to Haverford’s culture.

23. Without the financial aid package Haverford offered you, would you have chosen Haverford?

	Votes	%
<i>No, would not have chosen</i>	242	40.47
<i>I am not on financial aid</i>	236	39.46
<i>Yes, would have chosen</i>	120	20.07



Summary of Students' Responses:

The vast majority of students wrote that they would not have been able to come to Haverford if they had not received the financial aid package that they did. Many students specifically referred to their package as "generous." Some students responded that because Haverford was need-blind and had a no-loan policy, they had felt comfortable applying to Haverford Early Decision even though they were dependent on financial aid. Other students said that they had chosen Haverford, even at the expense of their top choice school, because Haverford offered the better financial aid package. For students whose top choice was Haverford, many expressed gratitude that the financial aid they had received enabled them to come to their favorite school.

24. Are there any changes you would like to see in the financial aid policy? If so, please describe.

Summary of Students' Responses:

In total 471 students responded to this question. The majority of students did want the financial aid policy. A fair number explicitly expressed in very strong terms that they did not want the school to change its need-blind and no-loan policies. These students felt that these policies were integral to Haverford's mission.

Other changes frequently expressed by the respondents include:

- Making the financial aid process more transparent. Many students expressed confusion with how their aid package was decided and what each component meant for their family.
- Students wanted the process to be "friendlier" and more holistic. Many respondents expressed anger that the financial aid office had not seemed to take into consideration any extenuating factors into the decision (ex. high medical expenses required by another family member). A few people suggested that Haverford could accept personal statements from families explaining their special circumstances.
- A considerable number of students complained about the fact Haverford considers the financial wherewithal of both parents, regardless of whether both parents are still involved with supporting the student. Numerous people complained that their single parent was unfairly burdened because the financial aid office counted an absentee parent's income. Students suggested that there should be a way to prove that a parent had abandoned his/her financial responsibilities to the student so that true financial need was calculated.
- Multiple students mentioned that it was hard to study abroad and lose at least a semester's worth of work-study money.
- A fair number of respondents felt that the summer earnings expectation was unreasonably high, especially because, due to the current economic climate, it is very hard to find a summer job, let alone a well paying one.

25. Do you have any additional comments about financial aid or this survey?

Selection of Students' Comments:

<p>Haverford grants have allowed me to enter the world with great credit and almost no debt. I cannot emphasize enough how much they are positively impacting my early life and I have every intention to give the money back to Haverford once I am able to do so.</p>
<p>I think Haverford has an awesome financial aid package, and I think it speaks to Haverford's value of diversity and emphasis on accepting students who belong in this community that it is need-blind. I think the no-loan policy really speaks to Haverford's commitment to social justice, since not having loans means that graduates can do the work they feel called to do without worrying about taking a higher-paying job to pay off loans.</p>
<p>Good financial aid is necessary to having a diverse learning community. It would have horrible consequences on the community if qualified students could not pay for a Haverford education. Such a change would make the community even more homogenous and take away central voices from the discussions and friendships that take place.</p>
<p>It's a bit unnerving to be in the no man's land, as I am, wherein your family is affluent enough so as not to qualify for financial aid, but not so affluent as to be able to actually afford college without going into a lot of debt.</p>
<p>I heartily appreciate Haverford' commitment to meeting the students' financial needs and I feel so privileged to be one of the recipients of financial aid. As I believe the impact current financial aid policies is huge, I do hope the college will be able to continue its noble commitment.</p>
<p>I just know that financial aid here has provided opportunities for students that other schools wouldn't/couldn't, and I think it shows how much Haverford cares about its students.</p>
<p>I just want to say thank you for my wonderful financial aid package. I would not be able to attend Haverford otherwise. I am getting a very quality education here, and I really appreciate financial aid, because that makes it possible for me to come here.</p>
<p>I just want to stress that for many students (including those in middle income brackets, such as myself), without Haverford's grant aid policy we would not be able to attend Haverford. Paying for private school is already a significant financial burden above and beyond that required to attend a good public university; if loans were added to this (even small ones) we would not even consider applying to (much less attending) Haverford. I applied to Haverford and not other peer schools in part because of Haverford's financial aid policy, and accepted almost entirely based on the financial aid package. Do whatever it takes to balance the budget (cut the heating and lights if you have to!), but please don't cut our financial aid.</p>
<p>Thanks so much for an amazing package! It's something that makes me proud to go to Haverford, and also something that simply makes it possible for me to go here in the first place!</p>
<p>When I got my financial aid letter for my sophomore year this summer, I cried because I was so happy. Please don't take that away from me or anyone else. Haverford's willingness to work so hard to keep people at this school once they have been accepted it unusual and very important to the culture here. I think it says a lot about what the school really values which I think is, as it should be, the students themselves.</p>
<p>From the bottom of my heart, I appreciate the financial aid Haverford has given me and recognize that it's given me opportunities I never would have dreamed of having. I appreciate the college's commitment to socioeconomic equality both on the academic level and on the social level at Haverford; it's the reason why I am here. I cried when I got my financial aid package.</p>

