



**Inside  
Higher  
Ed**

# What Provosts Think

**Webcast on *Inside Higher Ed's* 2023  
Survey of College and University  
Chief Academic Officers  
April 12, 2023  
2 p.m. Eastern**

# Presenters

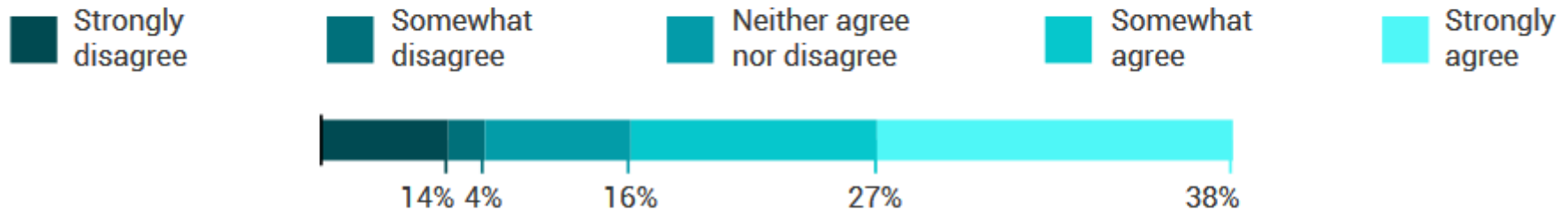
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# The Survey

- 401 provosts from public, private nonprofit and for-profit institutions responded.
- All responses are completely anonymous, but coded by sector.
- Survey conducted by Hanover Research.
- Survey sponsors are Wiley, Honorlock, Interfolio, Coursedog and Watermark.

# Ambivalent on Tenure

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement:  
**Tenure remains important and viable at my institution.** (n=382)



Do you favor or oppose a system of long-term contracts over the existing tenure system in higher education? (n=381)



# The Future of Tenure

- More than three-quarters of provosts report that their institution relies significantly on non-tenure-track faculty for instruction, and most do not expect this level of reliance to change in the future.
- 66% expect their institution to be as reliant on non-tenure-track faculty members in the future as it is today. More (27%) expect their institution to become more reliant than less reliant (7%).

# Some Progress on Helping Those Off the Tenure Track

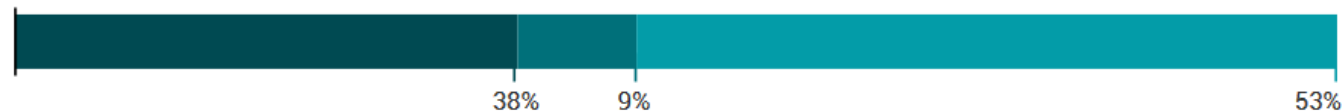
As you may know, some colleges are exploring new faculty models beyond a tenure track versus non-tenure track distinction. Please indicate whether your college has done or has considered doing each of the following for nontenure track faculty members. (n=379)

- My college has not considered doing this
- My college has considered doing this
- My college has done this

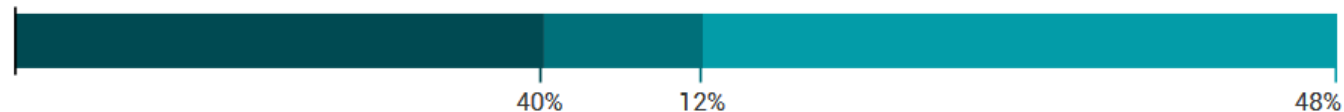
Better recognition of the roles of those who are teachers only



Voting rights as a faculty member



Multiple-year contracts

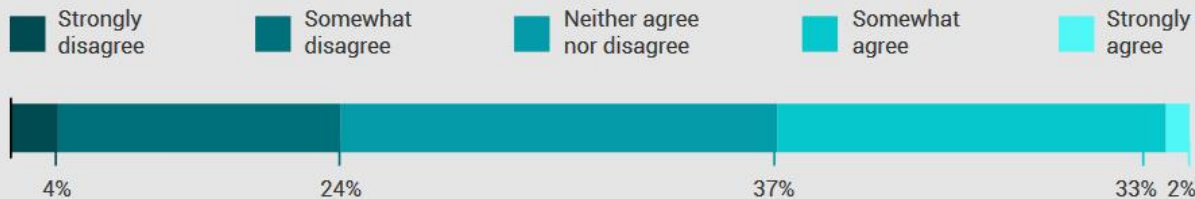


New job titles

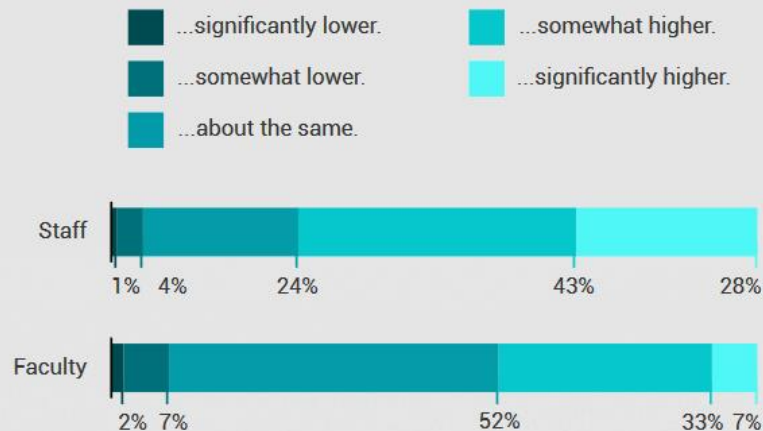


# Faculty and Staff Turnover

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding faculty turnover and burnout? My institution has taken concrete steps to address faculty burnout. (n=384)



To what extent has turnover of the following groups decreased or increased over the past year? As compared to previous years, turnover is... (n=382)



# Academic Health -- I

- Most provosts think the academic health of their institution is good (61 percent).
- No provosts indicate that their academic health is failing.
- But if you ask more questions...



# Academic Health -- II

How would you rate the effectiveness of your institution in the following areas? (n=385)

Not effective at all
  Not too effective
  Somewhat effective
  Very effective

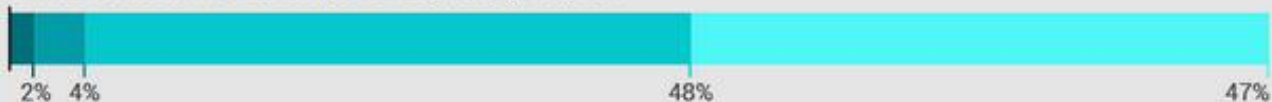


# General Education

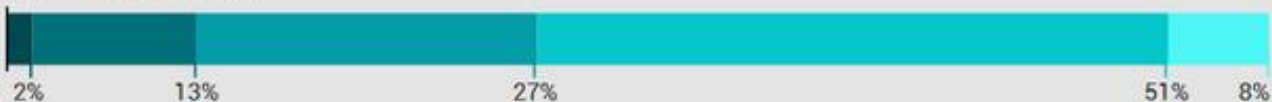
Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding general education requirements. (n=374)

Strongly disagree
  Somewhat disagree
  Neither agree nor disagree
  Somewhat agree
  Strongly agree

General education is a crucial part of any college degree.



Faculty members at my college are enthusiastic about teaching courses that are part of our general education requirements.



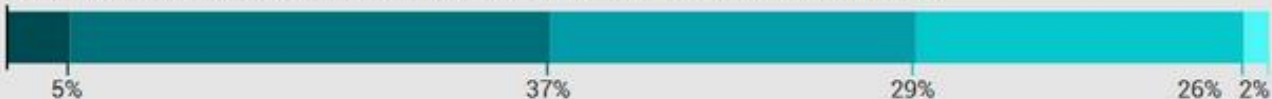
Students at my college emerge from general education courses with sufficient writing skills.



General education requirements have become too expansive.



Students at my college understand the purpose of our general education requirements.



# Liberal Arts Education -- I



# Liberal Arts Education -- II

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about liberal arts education: (n=375)

Strongly disagree
  Somewhat disagree
  Neither agree nor disagree
  Somewhat agree
  Strongly agree

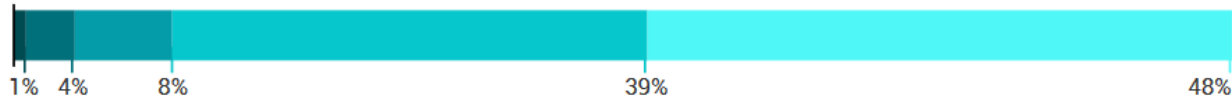
The concept of a liberal arts education is not well understood in the U.S.



My institution is increasing attention on the ability of our degree programs to help students get good jobs.



Liberal arts education is central to undergraduate education - even in professional programs.



I expect to see the number of liberal arts colleges decline significantly over the next five years.



Politicians, presidents, and boards are increasingly unsympathetic to liberal arts education.

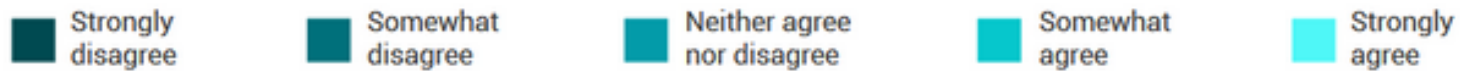


Liberal arts education in all types of institutions in the U.S. is in decline.



# The Role of Departments

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements: (n=373)



High-quality undergraduate education requires healthy departments in fields such as English, history, political science, and other liberal arts fields.



Politicians and board members are prioritizing STEM and professional programs over those that support general education.



The number of students majoring in a program is an appropriate way to determine which departments to cut.



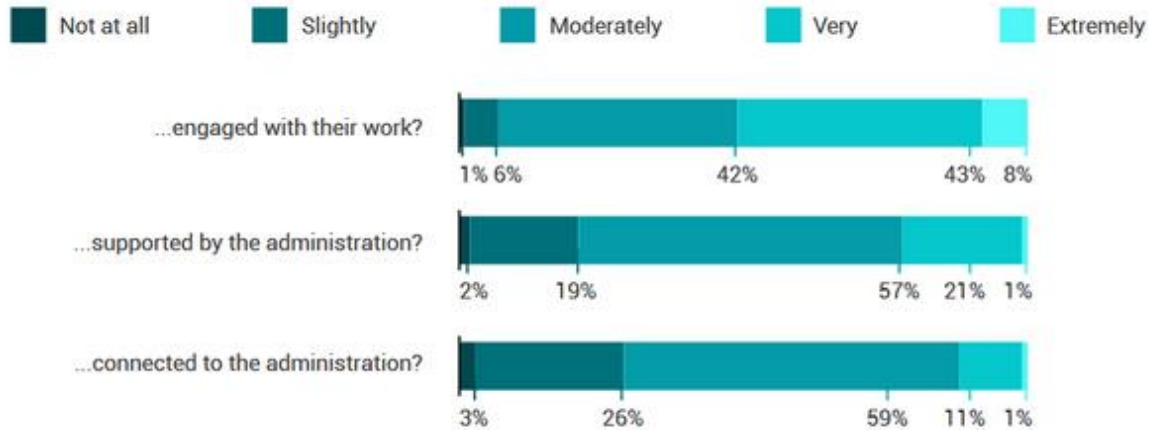
# STEM vs. Other Departments

Most provosts anticipate major allocation of funds to STEM fields and professional or pre-professional programs in the next budget year. And more than half of provosts anticipate major allocation of funds to online programs (55 percent).

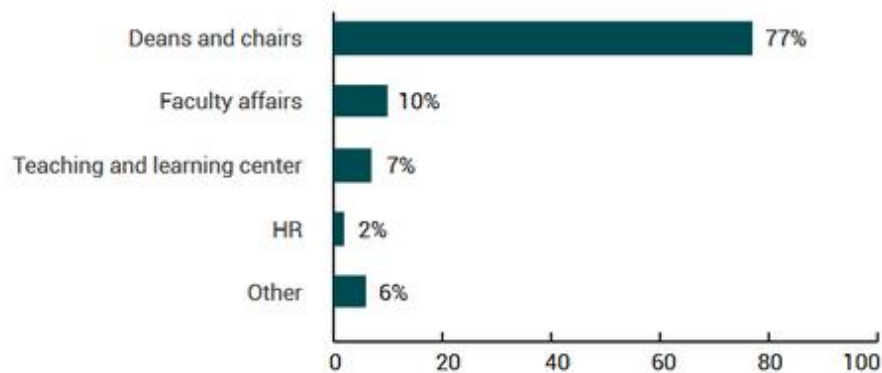
However, only 30 percent anticipate that arts and sciences programs will be prioritized in the next budget year.

# Do Faculty Feel Engaged? Supported?

To what extent do you believe faculty currently feel... (n=400)

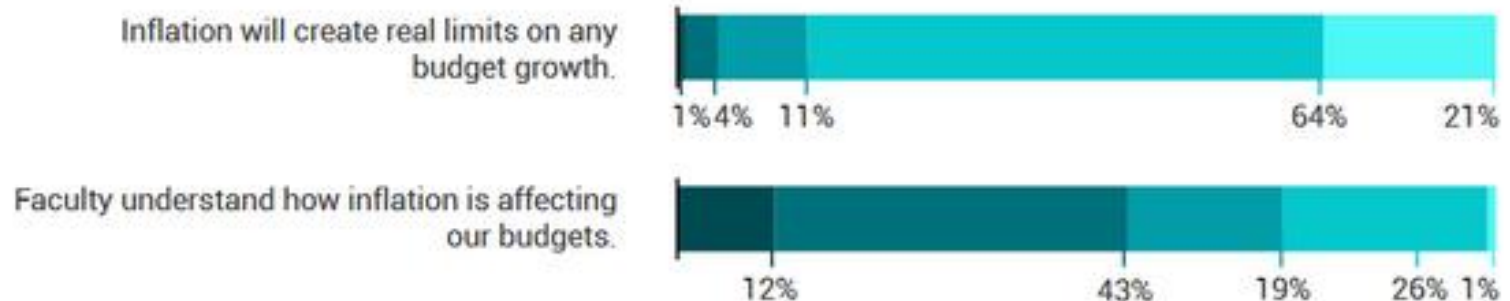
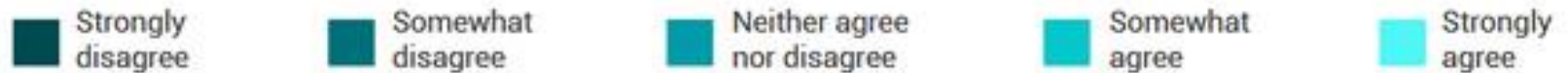


At your institution, who is primarily responsible for ensuring faculty are supported, engaged, and connected? (n=400)



# The Role of Inflation

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements related to inflation and your institution: (n=350)





# Your Questions

# With Thanks

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