



Background

- The Independent Student Analysis (ISA) is a student-led survey required by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) during their site visit conducted every 8 years.
- Wayne State University School of Medicine (WSUSOM) completed their LCME site visit in April 2023 and presented data from the January-March 2022 ISA.
- **WSUSOM Student Senate recognized the need to obtain continuous student feedback and formed the ISA Committee to gauge student needs with annual surveys. The committee reached out to student orgs for potential questions.**
- The student organization Mothers in Medicine (MnM) had been advocating for a parental accommodations policy, which would give time off for students experiencing birth or adoption and provide resources such as lactation rooms and childcare spaces.
- The Institutional Justice and Inclusion Subcommittee of WSUSOM Student Senate (IJI) worked on a religious accommodations policy to allocate 3 days per year for religious holidays not covered by the academic calendar.
- **Both MnM and IJI turned to the ISA Committee, who used their December 2022 survey to garner student opinion about these proposed policies.**

Aim



To promote student wellness by utilizing the Independent Student Analysis to garner student support for policies advocated by various student organizations, such as Mothers in Medicine and IJI.

Methods

- The ISA Committee distributed a new version of the ISA to the student body between December 1-22, 2022 on New Innovations.
- Both policies were included on the survey written as below:
 - I would support a new religious holiday policy that allocated 3 days/year, outside of wellness days, that students can use for religious/spiritual holidays that are not covered by the school calendar.
 - I would support a parental accommodations policy that would allow for excused time off for medical students who are experiencing the birth or adoption of a child and increase resources, such as lactation rooms, childcare spaces, test-taking accommodations, etc., for medical student parents.
- Students were asked to demonstrate their satisfaction with the proposed policies on a 5-point Likert scale ranging from “very satisfied” to “very dissatisfied.”

Results

- A total of 963 students from all four classes answered the question supporting the religious accommodation policy, with 93.5% of respondents selecting either “satisfied” or “very satisfied.”
- Similarly, of the 961 students answering the question supporting the parental accommodation policy, 92.8% of respondents selected either “satisfied” or “very satisfied.”
- These results demonstrated how valuable the two organizations’ policies would be to the student body. The results are broken down visually by each class from M1 to M4 students.

Figure 1: Support for religious accommodation policy

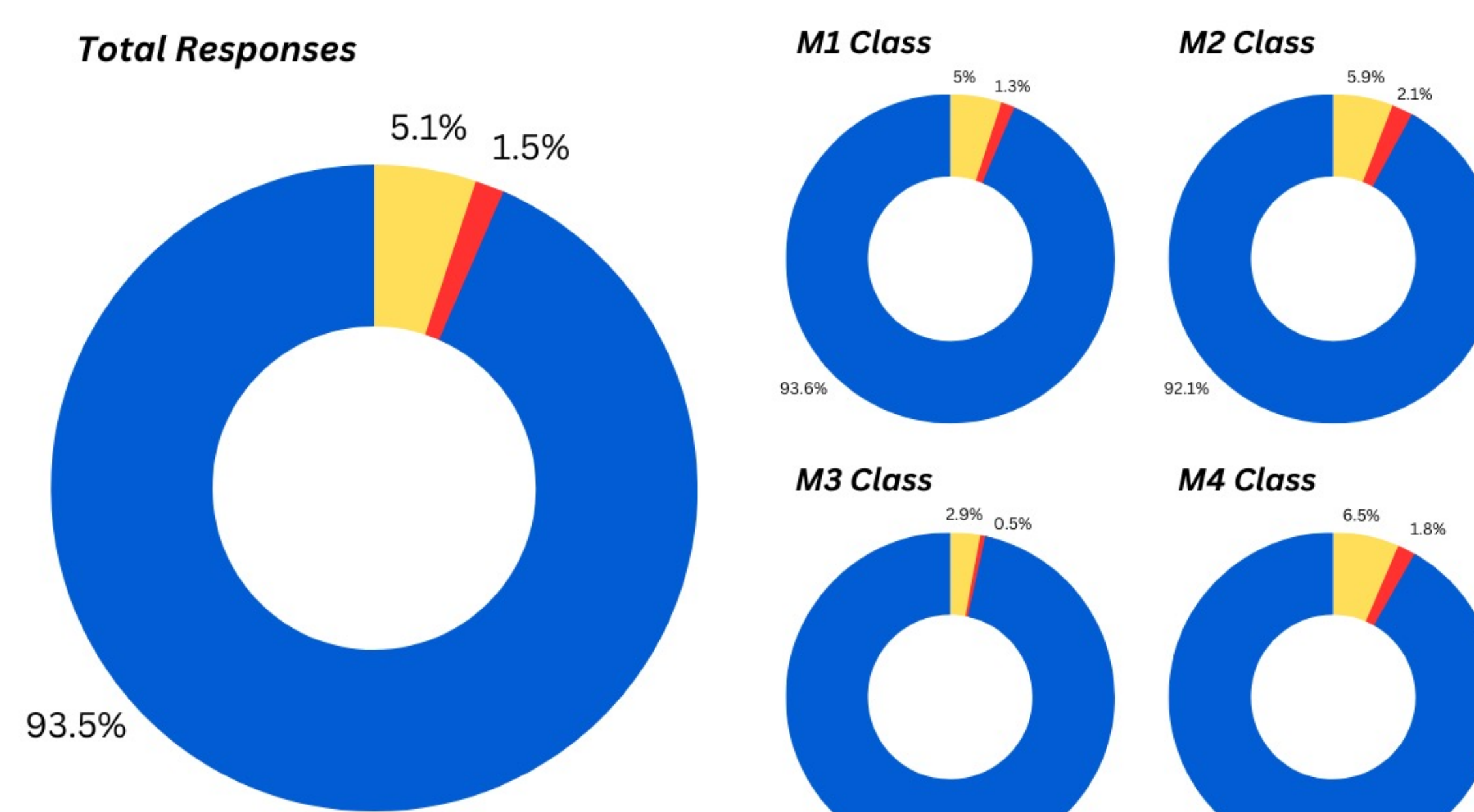
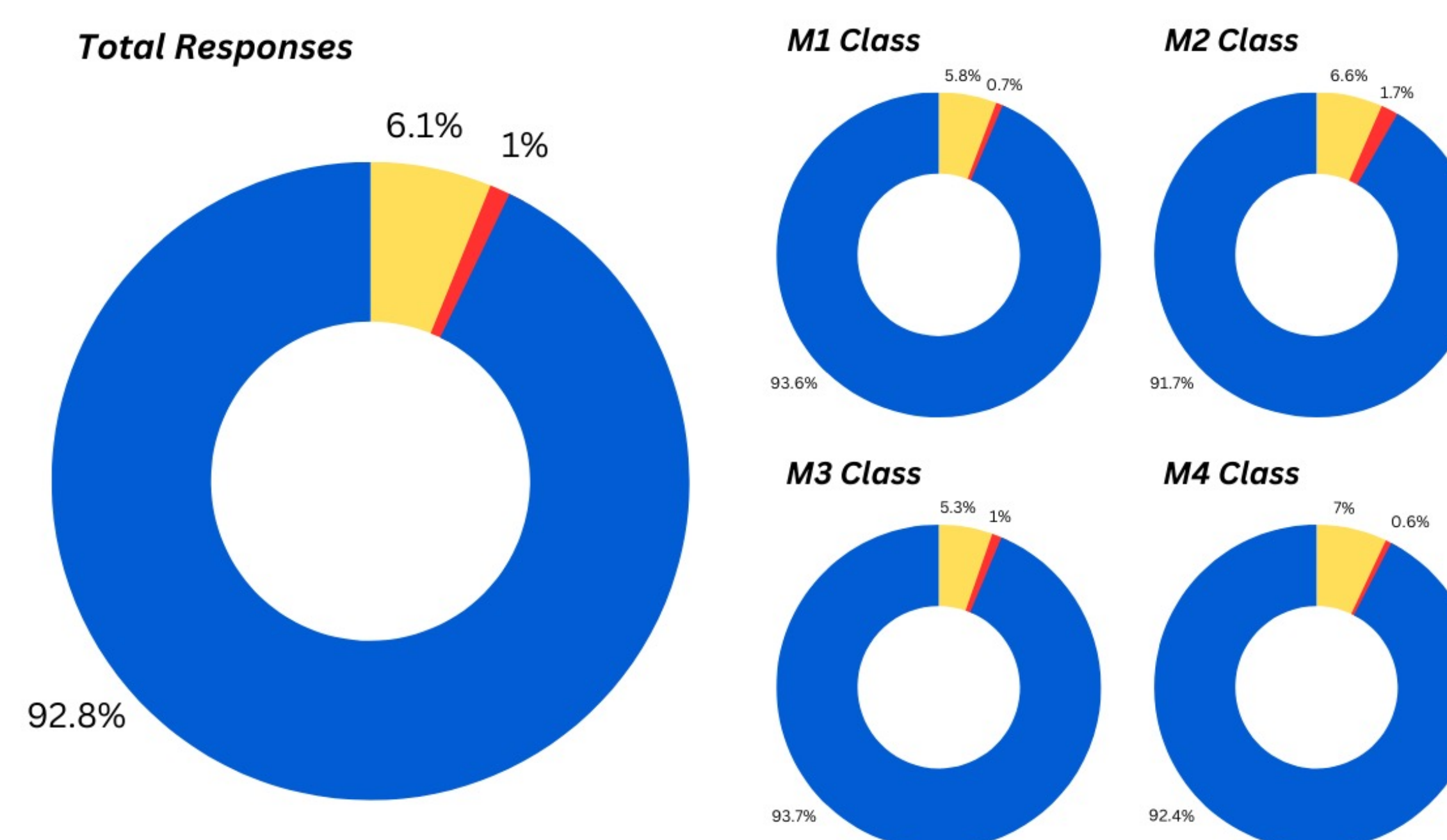


Figure 2: Support for parental accommodations policy



■ Combined Satisfied and Very Satisfied ■ N/A Responses
■ Combined Dissatisfied and Very Dissatisfied

Discussion

- The overwhelming support for the two policy measures demonstrated the need for both parental and religious accommodations at WSUSOM.
- With the information acquired from the December 2022 survey, the ISA Committee created a report which was shared with the WSUSOM administration. This report highlighted the issues that students cared about, including the two policies, and offered suggestions for administration to implement the changes the students supported.
- The ISA Committee also shared the survey results with student leaders, who can use this data for further advocacy. The committee encouraged the leaders of MnM and IJI to communicate with WSUSOM administration and continue their work.
- With a vehicle to support student organizations, the ISA Committee will continue to send ISA surveys to the student body, with the next one planned for October 2023. In future iterations of the survey, the committee will include input from student organizations and proposed policies.
- With continuous use of student feedback and communication with administration, the committee hopes to improve wellness in medical education and promote diversity and equity at WSUSOM.

Conclusion

- The ISA Committee is serving as a vehicle to garner student feedback and demonstrate tangible results to the WSUSOM administration to promote policies that would benefit the entire student body.
- This data is a tangible display of student support for initiatives advocated by the WSUSOM student body, such as religious and parental accommodations.
- In future iterations of the survey, the committee will continue to include support statements from various student organizations to promote a collaborative and welcoming environment at the Wayne State University School of Medicine.

References

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