On Diversity
As the Supreme Court prepares to hear arguments this spring on the University of Michigan's race-conscious admissions policies, Harvard will file a brief supporting the right of higher-education institutions to consider race as a factor in a well-constructed admissions program. Justice Lewis Powell famously cited the College’s policies in his opinion in the landmark 1978 Bakke case, which outlawed admissions quotas or numerical set-asides, but upheld the consideration of race as one factor in making admissions decisions, so long as that practice was necessary to promote a substantial interest and treated applicants as individuals. Briefs favoring Michigan's position were due by February 18, after this issue went to press; updates may be found at www.harvardmagazine.com.

A Master’s Higher Calling
The College’s longest-serving House master and co-master have announced their intention to step down at the end of the academic year. William A. Graham and Barbara S. Graham will have completed 12 years in residence at Currier House. He is Albertson professor of Middle Eastern studies and professor of the history of religion; she is the Harvard University Library’s associate director for administration and programs. Those responsibilities did not limit their service to the House, the Grahams wrote in a January e-mail to the House community, but William Graham’s appointment as dean of Harvard Divinity School last August (see “Rethinking the Divinity School,” November-December 2002, page 61) made it necessary for Currier to have new leadership.

Another Quad Couple
The Grahams’ announcement was followed by the late-Janu-
deferred for consideration in the regular admissions pool.

**Signal Punishment**
Their theft of nearly $100,000 from Hasty Pudding Theatricals (see “Underhanded Undergraduates,” May-June 2002, page 59) will apparently cost Suzanne M. Pomey and Randy J. Gomes more than restitution, guilty pleas, and probation. A University official confirms that at the recommendation of the Administrative Board, the Faculty Council approved their dismissal from the College, costing each of these members of the class of 2002 their degrees. The full Faculty of Arts and Sciences was to vote on the punishment at its February 11 meeting, after this issue went to press.

**Nota Bene**
Chief financial officer. Ann Berman is Harvard’s new vice president for finance; details will appear in the next issue.

**Indian academics.** The Oneida Nation, represented by Ray Halbritter, J.D. ’90, has established the Oneida Indian Nation Professorship of Law, Harvard’s first endowed chair in American Indian studies. The new professorship builds on the Law School’s recent course offerings on tribal treaties, federal Indian law, and related topics, and adds prominence to the University’s Native American Program (see www.ksg.harvard.edu/hunap).

Public physician. Howard K. Koh, formerly commissioner of public health for Massachusetts, has joined the School of Public Health as a professor and associate dean responsible for the division of public health practice. He succeeds Deborah Prothrow-Stith, professor of public health practice, who will focus on directing the school’s Center for Public Health Preparedness; she also remains associate dean for faculty development.

**Global and local reach.** Harvard’s office of government, community, and public affairs has created two new positions overseeing the University’s communications with world and local audiences. Vice president Alan J. Stone announced that Lucie McNeil, formerly senior communication adviser to British prime minister Tony Blair, has come to the American Cambridge to shape communications strategies, respond to international news queries, and assist Harvard’s leaders with media relations. On the home front, Lauren Marshall has relocated from Columbia University; she will manage communications concerning Harvard’s relationship with Boston and Cambridge, as planning and development proposals advance in both cities.

**College counselors.** College assistant dean Karen E. Averys, Ed.M. ’90, director of the Ann Radcliffe Trust and the contact person for sexual-assault and harassment issues, is moving to Washington, D.C., with her family. She will be succeeded by Julia G. Fox effective July 1. Fox, who has twice served as acting assistant dean, is a liaison to the Committee to Address Sexual Assault at Harvard, which will report this spring. While assuming Avery’s portfolio, Fox remains responsible for transfer and visiting students.

**Gender studies advance.** A course guide on gender and sexuality studies—like those on health policy, ethics, and other multidisciplinary subjects—has been approved by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences administration and will be forthcoming this fall; Bradley S. Epps, professor of romance languages and literatures, and lecturer Heather K. Love have been leading the effort for more recognition of “queer studies” and related scholarship on gender, the family, and associated topics (see “Toward Gender and Sexuality Studies?” May-June 2002, page 57).

**Gangs of New York.** Martin Scorsese is celebrated for his films Taxi Driver, Raging Bull, and, currently, for Gangs of New York. The 153th Hasty Pudding production, entitled It’s a Wonderful Afterlife, was set to premiere on February 13.