oral sequence, like the biblical begats,” says professor of English Gordon Teskey, discussing the curricular reformers’ thought process. “Is there some way that literature could take into account geography as well as time?”

The fresh model is more an hourglass than a line, Teskey says, allowing for the fact that English literature was not conceived in the British Isles alone, in isolation from the rest of the world, and is certainly not confined to the British Isles now—when some of the most vibrant English-language literature is being composed far from Britain. “We studied English literature or we studied American literature and the idea was that these traditions were rooted in one place and the expression of one geography,” says Loker professor of English James Simpson, a member of the curriculum futures committee that drafted the new program.

“The inflow course [Arrivals] and the outflow course [Diffusions] take a different tack; rather than stressing rootedness, they stress cultural mobility.”

But the changes are more than a matter of curricular philosophy, Donoghue stresses, pointing to a renewed emphasis on advising that will help anchor the new program. Students will be assigned to a professor for big-picture guidance, while relying on the director of undergraduate studies for more personalized steering in a concentration that now aims to allow more room for movement by including seven free-choice electives among its 11 non-honors degree requirements. “We as a department wanted to move away from the idea that electives are somehow a sign of weakness in the program, that there’s chaos attached to them,” he says.

With Donoghue already pushing ahead to implement the new program for the fall term, his colleagues across Quincy Street, in the classics, unanimously approved their own curricular revisions at a meeting in early March, capping the department’s most detailed look at its concentration requirements in more than 30 years. Gone are the comprehensive general examinations previously required for graduation—and with them the decades-old reading list from which the examination material was drawn. The concentration’s seven potential tracks—on whose

---

**University People**

**Administrator-in-Chief**

Sally Zeckhauser, the University’s vice president for administration since 1988, will retire effective June 30, concluding a 35-year Harvard career. Working in Massachusetts Hall during five Harvard presidencies, she has provided senior-level continuity while overseeing the principal staff operations responsible for everything from buildings and grounds, real-estate planning and management, and dining services to oversight of affiliated institutions including the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University Press, and the financial affairs of this magazine. Significant renovations carried out on her watch included the renewal of the Harvard Yard residences, Barker Center, Widener Library, and Memorial Hall, and Zeckhauser played a leading role in acquiring the land for future academic development in Allston. She is known across campus for the annual “Harvard Heroes” recognition for high-performing staff members, and for the Bridge to Learning and Literacy Program, which offers skills and language training to hundreds of service and clerical/technical workers and has helped many attain citizenship. Zeckhauser also chairs the board of trustees at Bryn Mawr College, her alma mater.

---

**Headed for Hanover**

François-Xavier Bagnoud professor of health and human rights Jim Yong Kim, chair of Harvard Medical School's department of global health and social medicine, has been named Kaneb professor of national security and military affairs. Stephen Rosen and Mandana Sassanfar, tutor in biochemical sciences, who have served for six years. At Pforzheimer House, Nicholas Christakis, M.D. ’88, M.P.H. ’89, professor of medical sociology and professor of sociology, and Erika Christakis ’86, director of a cooperative preschool, have been appointed master and co-master. They succeed James J. McCarthy, professor of biological oceanography, and Sue McCarthy, who are completing 12 years of service. These are the first appointments of new House masters made by Harvard College dean Evelyn Hammonds.