More broadly, he said, “99 percent of teachers—seriously paying attention to teaching.”

He was “delighted that Harvard is finally, sweeping change who in conversation said how conceptual learning takes place.” Faust cited him for “reconceiving teaching in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS)—who is widely known for pioneering quick-response mechanisms (initially using “clickers” but now including wireless devices) that will connect to digital classroom spaces—and an entirely different way to teach future teaching professionals. “We have a long way to go,” Mazur said, “which is why I’m so happy about this gift.”

John G. Palfrey VII, Ess librarian at the Law School and professor of law, a scholar of all things digital, also participated in the planning group. He said universities “haven’t figured out how fundamental a change digitization will be,” and that assessing the efficacy of educational innovations and outcomes was rudimentary, at best. He characterized as “very exciting” the prospect of “venture-capital-style investing” in teaching innovations, alongside spending to move toward classroom spaces “that will connect to digital environments, that are flexible.” (Palfrey is leaving Harvard to become head of Phillips Academy, Andover, on July 1.)

Core Contributors
We extend warmest thanks to three outstanding contributors to Harvard Magazine during 2011, and happily award each a $1,000 honorarium for superb service to readers.

John T. Bethell ’54 is a lifelong Crimson football fan. Since concluding his distinguished service as editor of this magazine at the end of 1994, he has continued to follow the team and to report, as “Cleat,” on how it fares. In this historic season (see page 66), it is a fitting pleasure to recognize his deft dispatches—rich in game-day detail, grounded in gridiron tradition—with the McCord Writing Prize, named for David T.W. McCord ’21, A.M. ’22, L.H.D. ’56, whose legendary prose and verse, composed for these pages and for the Harvard College Fund, it honors.

Robert Neubecker created especially intelligent, communicative illustrations to accompany “Colleges in Crisis” in the July-August issue. When we subsequently published a near-companion essay, “Bullish on Private Colleges,” in the November-December magazine, Neubecker if anything topped himself in the accompanying art.

Recognizing contributing editor Jim Harrison for his vivid, humane portraits and many other photographs published here has become routine—because he never treats any assignment routinely. His cover images of evolutionary biologist Daniel Lieberman and blogger Andrew Sullivan, his portfolio of leading scholars in the 375th anniversary issue, and his amazing, lively record of the sodden anniversary celebration itself, on October 14 (see page 32), suggest his range and abilities.