Expenses rose by $134 million to just more than $5 billion (2.7 percent)—continuing a moderating trend (up 3.9 percent in fiscal 2017 and 5.3 percent in the prior year). Although some one-time factors affected the results, it appears that deans, expecting level endowment distributions, reined in their spending.

Compensation—salaries, wages, and benefits—accounts for half of expenditures, and rose only 2 percent: less than half the rate of growth in fiscal 2017. Salaries and wage expense increased 3 percent, also decelerating from the prior year; and employee-benefit costs were unchanged.

There is a bit of accounting noise in that number. Expenses for employee benefits such as retirees’ defined-benefit pensions and healthcare costs are adjusted annually for changes in the prevailing discount rate. In fiscal 2017, those adjustments increased costs significantly. In fiscal 2018, the interest-rate adjustment (and favorable claims experience) decreased costs, a significant swing in results. In both years, health-benefits costs for active employees—the major benefits expense—rose a reported 4 percent, reflecting more people covered and higher claims costs.

All other expenses increased by an aggregate 3 percent. Space and occupancy costs rose an apparent 10.5 percent, to $410 million. Some of that reflects the University’s torrid construction program (see below) and larger facilities, such as the expanded

---

### University People

#### National Academy Members

Among the 75 new U.S. members of the National Academy of Medicine are a dozen from Harvard: professor of medicine Richard S. Blumberg; Gamble professor of biostatistics, population, and data science Francesca Dominici; Canellos professor of medicine Benjamin L. Ebert; Rosenkrantz professor of the history of science and professor of African and African American studies Evelyn M. Hammonds; professor of genetics Robert E. Kingston; Austen professor of surgery Keith Douglas Lillehoe; professor of biostatistics and of statistics Xi Hong Lin; professor of pathology Matthew Langer Meyerson; professor of pediatrics and of education Charles A. Nelson III; Loeb professor of chemistry and chemical biology Stuart L. Schreiber; Fabyan professor of comparative pathology Arlene H. Sharpe; and Chandler professor of ophthalmology Janey L. Wiggins.

#### NIH Notables

Seven Harvard scientists are among the 89 newest beneficiaries of the National Institutes of Health’s programs to encourage pioneering biomedical research through high-risk, high-reward grants: assistant professor of biological chemistry and molecular pharmacology Justin Kim; professor of stem cell and regenerative biology, and of medicine, Richard T. Lee; assistant professor of medicine Po-Ru Loh; John Harvard Distinguished Science Fellow Sergey Ovchinnikov; Stillman professor of developmental biology Norbert Perrimon; Forst Family professor of stem cell and regenerative biology Amy Wagers (who chairs that department); and professor of systems biology Peng Yin. Their projects range from investigating the repair of damaged tissues to using DNA and RNA as scaffolds to help manufacture biomolecules.

#### AAAS Honorands

Count 10 faculty members among the newly elected fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences: professor of genetics Susan M. Dymecki; Stanfield professor of international peace Jeffrey Frieden; Richards professor of chemistry and professor of materials science Cynthia Friend; Zwaanstra professor of international studies and economics Gita Gopinath (now serving as chief economist of the International Monetary Fund); Valle professor of molecular pathology Wade Harper; McArthur University Professor Rebecca Henderson; Thomas professor of history and of African and African American studies Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham; McGuire lecturer in comparative politics Pippa Norris; Hessel professor of biology Naomi E. Pierce; and Ballard professor of pediatrics and neurology Christopher A. Walsh.

#### Honor Roll

The Royal Institute of British Architects has conferred its 2018 Stirling Prize on Foster + Partners’ European headquarters for Bloomberg LP. Hanif Kara, professor in practice of architectural technology, and his firm, AKT II, served as engineers and design director for the project. The Library of Congress has conferred the biennial Bobbit National Prize for Poetry on Boylston professor of rhetoric and oratory Jorie Graham for her 2017 collection of poems, Fast; the magazine’s 2001 profile is available at harvardmag.com/joriegraham-18. Charles River professor of engineering and applied sciences Robert Wood has received the Max Planck-Humboldt Medal for his pioneering work on robotics—covered recently in “The RoboBee Collective” (November-December 2017, page 56).

#### Crimson Chief

The Crimson Chief announced in November that Kristine E. Guillaume ’20 has been elected president, effective January 1, making her the first black woman to serve as leader in the newspaper’s 145-year history.