**Overseers’ Leaders**

R. Martin Chávez ’85, S.M. ’85, has been elected president of the Board of Overseers for the 2020-2021 academic year, and Beth Karlan ’78, M.D. ’82, will serve as vice chair of the executive committee. Chávez, a computer scientist, served as co-head of the securities division, chief financial officer, and chief information officer of Goldman Sachs, where he remains a senior director. Karlan is professor of obstetrics and gynecology at UCLA’s Geffen School of Medicine, and directs the cancer population genetics program at the university’s cancer center. They succeed Michael Brown ’83, J.D. ’88, and Lesley Friedman Rosenthal ’86, J.D. ’89, respectively.

**Dental Dean**

William V. Giannobile, D.M.Sc.-S.D.M. ’96, has been appointed dean of the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, succeeding Bruce Donoff, who concluded 28 years of service at the end of 2019. The new dean, an expert in periodontology and oral regenerative medicine, returns to longwood September 1 from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry, where he has been Najjar Endowed Professor. Read more at [harvardmag.com/giannobile-hsdm-20](http://harvardmag.com/giannobile-hsdm-20).

**Design Dean’s “Step Back”**

Graduate School of Design dean Sarah Whiting, at her post since last July, told her colleagues that she had been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma. Her April 6 message to the community said that she would take “a partial step back” from daily responsibilities to begin treatment, with professor of urban design and planning Rahul Mehrotra serving as dean designate and professor of landscape architecture Niall Kirkwood continuing as associate dean for academic affairs. Details are available at [harvardmag.com/gsd-dean-leave-20](http://harvardmag.com/gsd-dean-leave-20).

**CLASS DAY CREATIVITY. On Wednesday afternoon, May 27, M.Arch. candidates from the Design School who were still in town arranged themselves on the (otherwise deserted) Widener steps for an impromptu class photo: the first with social-distancing strictly observed, and everyone properly face-masked. The idea was Jessica Lim’s (front and center, in green).**

**Athletics Director**

Erin McDermott has been appointed Nichols Family director of athletics, effective July 1, succeeding Robert A. Scalise, who had announced his retirement after 19 years in the position. McDermott, who was captain of the women’s basketball team at Hofstra, has previously held sports-man-agement positions at Columbia, Princeton (where she was deputy director of athletics), and, most recently, at the University of Chicago, where she was director of athletics and recreation, overseeing 20 intercollegiate sports and more than 40 club sports. For further information, see [harvardmag.com/mcdermott-ad-20](http://harvardmag.com/mcdermott-ad-20).

**Humanities Transition**

Porter professor of Medieval Latin Jan Ziolkowski, who has served as director of Dumbarton Oaks, in Washington, D.C., since 2007, will step down on July 1, and will serve as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. Thomas B.F. Cummins, Dumbarton Oaks professor of the history of Pre-Columbian and colonial art, will serve as interim director. During Ziolkowski’s tenure, Dumbarton Oaks undertook significant physical renovations to accommodate and house its academic fellows and interns, enabling it to increase the number of fellows by 25 percent—at a time when humanities positions have dwindled nationwide. He also established undergraduate and graduate residencies and internships, built ties to local public schools, enhanced access to the collections, and launched the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library, now numbering more than 60 volumes (see “Mysteries and Masterpieces,” January-February 2012, page 48).

**Economist’s Global Reach**

Zombanakis professor of the international financial system Carmen M. Reinhart, who joined the Kennedy School faculty in 2012, has been appointed chief economist of the World Bank, effective June 15. She assumes the post at a time of unprecedented turmoil in parts of the global financial system, and of worldwide recession stemming from the coronavirus pandemic—with especially dire threats to developing nations. She is best known to the public as coauthor, with Cabot professor of public policy Kenneth S. Rogoff, of This Time is Different: Eight Centuries of Financial Folly (see “Dealing with Debt,” July-August 2015, page 10).
Sexual-Misconduct Rules
The U.S. Department of Education in May promulgated new regulations governing how colleges handle sexual-assault and harassment allegations. The regulations narrow the scope of complaints that must be investigated; require that live hearings be held; and allow cross-examination during adjudication of complaints. Proponents say the new regimen restores fairness to a process that has unfairly disadvantaged those accused of sexual misconduct; critics say that it will discourage victims from registering complaints. The rules take effect August 14. In a statement, President Lawrence S. Bacow noted that during the rulemaking process, Harvard, through higher-education associations, had commented on “various aspects of the proposed changes, including areas that we believed might limit our ability to provide a safe and welcoming environment on our campus.” Now, he said, the University would “explore any changes needed to adhere to current federal and state law.”

National Academicians
Eight faculty members have been elected members of the National Academy of Sciences: Dennis Gaitsgory, Smith professor of mathematics; Joel F. Habener, professor of medicine; Michael Kremer, Gates professor of developing societies (who shared the Nobel honor with Daron Acemoglu and David Autor for their contributions to the understanding of the growth process); and Cassandra Extavour, Robinson research professor of biology and of African and African American studies. Baldwin H. Roberts Jr, professor of government; and Peter Temin, professor of economics, have been elected foreign members of the National Academy of Sciences for the first time. Two Harvard graduates have been inducted into the National Academy of Engineering: Richard S. Jones, Ackerman professor of the culture of medicine; and Robert F. Reville, Ropes professor of political economy, professor of economics and of the National Bureau of Economic Research; and Pedro Ponce, professor of molecular and cellular biology; and David Hemenway, Burbank professor of public health and of the faculty of public health.

Top Teachers
The Faculty of Arts and Sciences conferred its awards for teaching and mentorship during the final regular faculty meeting of the year, on May 5. Five-year Harvard College Professorships—for distinguished undergraduate teaching and advising, and graduate education (and accompanied by support for research and a semester of paid leave or summer salary)—were bestowed on: Katia Bertoldi, Danoff professor of applied mechanics; Glenda Carpio, professor of English and of African and African American studies; Cassandra Extavour, professor of organismic and evolutionary biology and of molecular and cellular biology; David S. Jones, Ackerman professor of the culture of medicine; and James Robson, Kalik and Lou professor of East Asian languages and civilizations. The complete list of honorees appears as a sidebar to harvardmag.com/remote-fasmtg-may-20.

Nota Bene
Old museum made new. The Harvard Semitic Museum, established in 1889, has become the Harvard Museum of the Ancient Near East, announced director Peter Der Manuelian, who is Bell professor of Egyptology (see harvardmag.com/near-east-museum-stela-17). The rebranding is meant to explain the holdings and scholarly purposes more accurately, he explained.


A community coronavirus casualty. Alfred “Fred” Joseph Iannacone Jr, proprietor of Fred’s Tropical Bar and Grill, died of a heart attack on May 23. The shop, he said, was central to his life since 1966…"Fred" was a really good dude among all of them.”

Miscellany. The College has appointed Sheehan Scarborough ’07, M.Div. ’14, senior director of the Harvard Foundation, to succeed the late S. Allen Counter. Scarborough has been director of BGLTQ student life since 2016…Leah Rosovsky ’78, M.B.A. ’84, Harvard’s vice president for strategy and programs from 2013 to 2019, has been appointed the seventeenth director of the Boston Athenaeum, the 213-year-old library, archive, museum, and reading room…The Manhattan Institute has conferred its Hayek Book Prize on the late Alberto Aleina, Ropes professor of political economy, and his coauthors, for Austerity: When It Works and When It Doesn’t, reviewed in this magazine (“Uses—and Abuses—of Austerity,” January-February 2019, page 63). Alesina died of a heart attack on May 23.