

reflects both the known financial realities and various adjustments the University has made during the past year. The scientists once headed to the Allston complex are being provided for elsewhere: the stem-cell researchers in Cambridge, and the bioengineering scientists in Cambridge and Longwood, while the Medical School's systems biology department remains in Longwood. Those decisions have two consequences:

- Given the tens of millions of dollars (and possibly more) needed to refit existing laboratories for the scientists diverted from Allston, and to relocate other professors to accommodate these moves, it is unlikely the University would want to incur those large costs again, soon, simply to gather stem-cell, bioengineering, and systems-biology staffs in Allston.

- Overhead funds paid with sponsored-research grants are an important means of defraying capital costs for laboratory buildings and facilities. With scientists diverted from Allston, and growth in their ranks slowed, the population of investigators whose grants would help pay the indirect laboratory costs will be smaller, making it harder to cover additional debt costs that Harvard would have to incur to erect the new Allston facilities. (See "Further Financial Fallout," January-February, page 45, for information on the faculty retirement-incentive offers and the plan to reduce new professorial appointments, at least within the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.) Faust's letter said that "Harvard's significant momentum in the life sciences" will "in no way" be slowed by the delay in the Allston science complex, and that faculty recruiting will continue. But the trajectory has clearly changed.

According to a News Office interview with executive vice president Katie Lapp, who oversees Allston, "We expect to take the next year to look at possible opportunities, including co-development with private partners or other institutional partners that may make sense for that site, as well as for other Allston sites that Harvard owns." The last phrase points to the larger Allston program.

Campus Planning Paused

BROADER "campus development," Faust's letter said, "will be pursued as resources allow and only after a targeted, evaluative process" that is about to begin. The Uni-

HARVARD PORTRAIT



Emma Dench

"I was very morbid as a child," says Emma Dench, professor of the classics and of history. "I liked dead things and dead people"—and when she visited the Roman baths in Bath, England, at seven, she says, "I realized the Romans were very, very dead." Obsessed with them, she walked the 73.5-mile length of Hadrian's Wall with her family at age 11. Today she teaches Latin writers like Livy and Cicero and history courses on the Roman empire. Dench's father is the noted Shakespearean actor Jeffery Dench (her aunt is film star Dame Judi Dench) and her mother, Betty, was a speech therapist. (As a child, Emma played Peaseblossom in a 1968 film of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.) The family lived near Stratford-on-Avon. Dench graduated from Wadham College, Oxford, with a double first in 1987, then taught classics for a year at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in upstate New York, which proved to her that she is "a city person." She returned to Oxford and took her D.Phil. in 1993; her dissertation, on "central Italian mountain men," appeared as *From Barbarians to New Men* in 1995. (*Romulus' Asylum*, on the multiethnic character of ancient Rome, came out in 2005.) Dench taught ancient history at the University of London's Birkbeck College from 1992 until 2006, and joined the Harvard faculty in 2007. She and her husband, artist Jonathan Bowker, have a 10-year-old son, Jacob. Every summer they travel, typically in Central America. "I hate the Romans—they were violent, sexist, racist, arrogant, and not very nice to anybody who got in their way," she says. "But I love to hate the Romans."