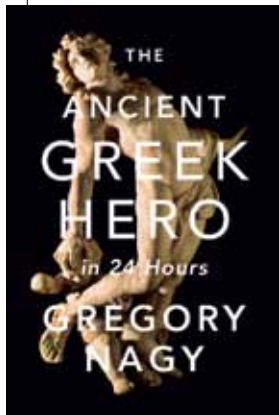


would have founded a more fully organized university press if the financial means had been available. President Lowell wanted a university press, but only with misgivings did he agree to start one, because he feared that it would not be self-supporting—and it wasn't. President Conant tried to abolish the Press because he did not think the University should be 'in business.' But he failed, and the University in the second half of his administration strengthened the Press instead, recognizing for the first time the need for making ample funds available for working capital. President Pusey had no financial

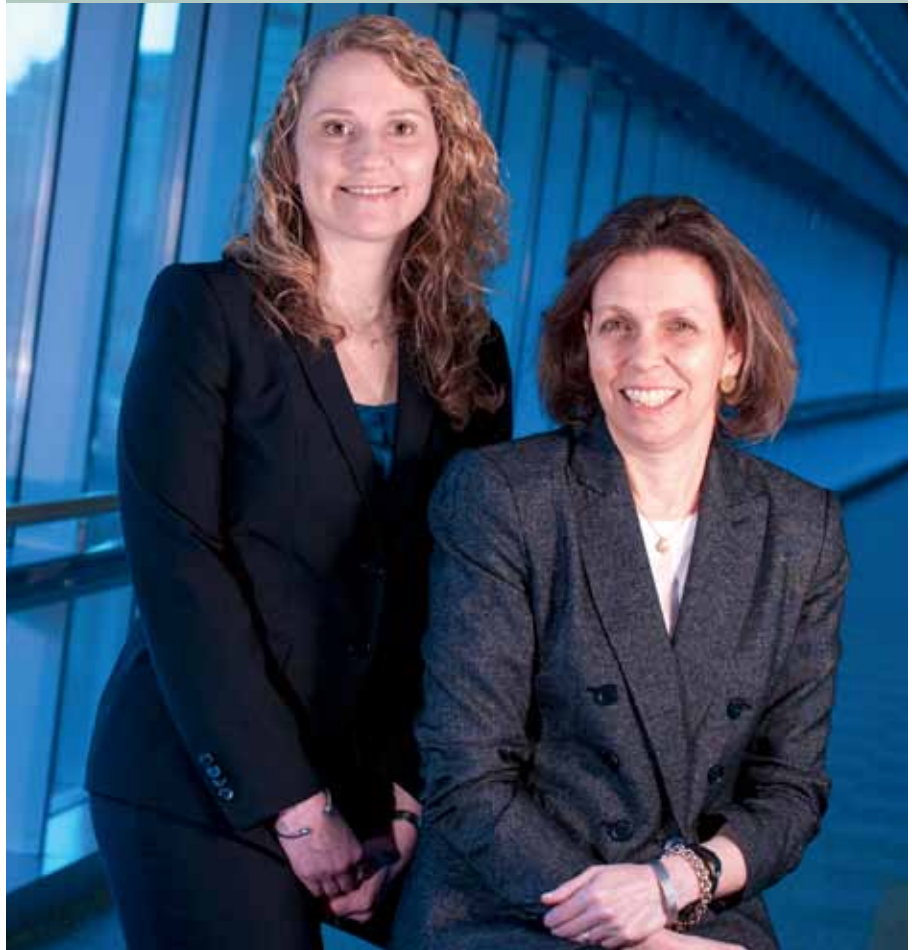
worries about the Press until the very end of his tenure. Under the four-year directorship of Mark Carroll, the Press published such seminal works as John Rawls's *A Theory of Justice*, E.O. Wilson's *The Insect Societies*, and *Notable American Women: 1607-1950*, edited by Edward T. James and Janet W. James. It also ran large, unanticipated, and unsatisfactorily explained deficits, and Carroll left his job, not quietly, in 1972. President Bok inherited a crisis during which Harvard gained some additional experience with academic publishing. He told the new Director in 1972 that he wanted the best scholarly press and also a very professional press and saw no reason why the two purposes should interfere with each other."

"It would be hubristic of me, I think, to assess our place in the world," says today's Press director, William P. Sisler, in response to a question to that point, "but the number of positive reviews we receive for our books and the awards won suggest we're doing okay. To the best of my knowledge, we have not been a drain on the University in the last 40-some-odd years (I've been here going on 23, and can attest to that), so we continue to be self-sufficient from two sources, our sales and our endowment. Obviously, both we and the University will be happier if that situation continues, though it doesn't get any easier!"

~CHRISTOPHER REED



A book offered for a fee in print and free online in edX, the nonprofit Harvard-MIT partnership for interactive study on the Web



Abigail Donovan and Laura Prager

The United States has more than 70 million children—and 7,500 child psychiatrists. That gulf between those who might need help and those trained to give it led assistant professors of psychiatry Laura M. Prager '80 (right) and Abigail L. Donovan to clarify what happens to children with acute mental illness by writing *Suicide by Security Blanket, and Other Stories from the Child Psychiatry Emergency Service*. They draw on personal experience: Prager directs that service at Massachusetts General Hospital; Donovan is associate director of the hospital's Acute Psychiatry Service. Their book's 12 composite episodes, crafted with "obsessive" care to protect privacy, bring lay and professional readers into the ER "when kids come to the brink," sharing what that's like for the child, physicians, and support staff. Their subjects range from children like "the whirling dervish"—"just as sick, or even more so" than peers with physical ailments—to those like "the astronomer," suffering from social deprivation, not acute psychopathology. Most of the stories have no resolution, typical of emergency-room practice. Donovan stresses "the complexity of these kids, their families, and the systems in which they live.... Each individual case needs a lot of expertise." Prager hopes "to expose a social evil: one reason children end up in emergency rooms is the lack of easily accessible outpatient care." If we continue to "ignore the fact that children have very profound emotional and social difficulties," she says, we will "end up neglecting our future: with kids whose difficulties weren't addressed when maybe we could have made a difference." With the book, she adds, "I think I can make a difference on the local and national level."