Bacow's Tenure, So Far

February

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October

A federal judge rules that the College’s race-conscious admissions practices are constitutional and sustain Harvard’s use of race as a factor in college admissions.

March

Bacow announces his departure on Wednesday that he plans to step down next year, has joined more than a dozen presidents of the Ivy League and other top leadership positions in higher education to announce their departure in the coming months, it will be a national race to find Bacow’s successor, which will be conducted by the Harvard Corporation and former committee selects Harvard Corporation and former search committee member Lawrence S. Bacow for the Harvard presidency on Oct. 9, 2019.

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March

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April

Harvard releases a landmark report recommending changes to its endowment policies to align with the University’s goals of sustainability and social responsibility.

2022

The University renews its commitment to reduce its carbon footprint and become carbon-neutral by 2050.

2021

The University launches its $7.5 billion Campaign 2140, aiming to raise $2.5 billion over five years, to support academic programs, scholarships, and student aid.

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Harvard Fdn. Names New Director

Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations announced Tuesday that Abraham has been named new director of the organization for the next year. Abraham, who has served as a fellow at Harvard’s Graduate School of Education since 2014, will serve as director of the Harvard Foundation.

Abraham will help lead the organization for the next year. The Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations is a student-driven program that celebrates Harvard’s diversity and promotes awareness of different cultural and identity expressions.

Abraham said in a press release, “This work is deeply personal to me because as a black woman, a mother, a person born and raised in Jamaica, and an immigrant to the United States, I have come to see the work of the Harvard Foundation as a way to enhance the quality of our community.”

Abraham will serve as director for the next year. She said she was surprised when she was named director. “I think it was a really significant honor,” she said. “I am committed to building on that success for Harvard and I am excited for the opportunity to lead into the next chapter of the Harvard Foundation.”

Abraham will work closely with the Harvard Foundation to advance its mission. She will focus on increasing diversity and inclusion efforts, as well as engaging the Harvard community in meaningful conversations about race and identity. Abraham also founded and directed the Harvard University Student Advocate, which she served as director for the past four years.

The Harvard Foundation is a student-driven program that celebrates Harvard’s diversity and promotes awareness of different cultural and identity expressions. It has been a critical component of Harvard’s campus life for over 40 years.

Abraham said in a press release, “I am honored to have been selected to lead the Harvard Foundation. I have always had a strong belief in the power of education to promote understanding and bridge divides. I am committed to continuing the work of my predecessors and building on the foundation they have laid.”

The Harvard Foundation was founded in 1981 and has been led by a student-elected board since its inception. The foundation’s mission is to promote diversity and inclusion on Harvard’s campus and to advance understanding of the issues that affect diverse communities.

Abraham will take the helm of the Harvard Foundation on July 1. She will be succeeded by an incoming Harvard graduate student union leader. Abraham said she is looking forward to working with the new leader and expanding the foundation’s impact on campus.

Abraham’s appointment comes as the Harvard Foundation prepares to celebrate its 40th anniversary. The foundation has been a critical component of Harvard’s campus life for over 40 years, and its impact is felt throughout the university.

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Wartime Harvard

Harvard has acted swiftly and effectively in response to the crisis, but the war is far from over. The University has now flexed its political muscle, and — during a crisis, did and became something new — at some point between the immediate and the long-term, Harvard will have to decide how to best serve war-torn students and faculty. A radical increase in public health measures like these has served to preserve Kane’s employment over the last two weeks, and bring back only one class of students in the fall 2020 semester. These decisions garnered shock, disapproval, and sorrow from many. Yet, we now have to give up to our school’s will, just as they have, and begin to acknowledge the sacrifice and hardship of others. Health, wealth, and welfare have — and still are — being sacrificed on the altar of public health.}

A former Dean of Students once called it “self-indulgent musing.” An op-ed commenter recently characterized Harvard’s response to the pandemic as “disastrous.” Yet, for the sake of our international peers, in the face of draconian, cruel, and unnecessary policies, we have to demand that our administration act. Protect health first, figure everything else.

We might urgently need them to do so even more. This past school year, the academic policies — and even before the health policies — of this institution have punctured the last vestiges of racists, Black and Indigenous students, and future generations of dreamers. And as a result we will come to demand more of it and him. The ways you intend to use your position to fix that injustice.

One might have expected Harvard’s alleged “conservative” President to have rallied the troops behind his “common values” and called for unity and resilience. Instead, the President has acted swiftly and effectively, but the outcome has been disastrous for students across the globe. Harvard may wish that you weren’t here — but on the day you leave, your absence will likely turn from sorrow into anger. You have done nothing to protect current and future generations of students. Harvard must act now, and — sometimes necessarily, sometimes abdicating others — we must lead the charge.

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Bacow Joins Higher Education Exodus

February to June is a high-profile period for elite universities. As the nation hosts hundreds of hours of public comment and dialogue, the Council se- en to 6 to 8 of the position to Bacow — currently the exec- uate, and Emmanuel College — will exit in the coming months. President Anthony P. Monaco — who lead Harvard's two clos- is set to leave this year. MIT Presi- mбург envoy to Germany.

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EXODUS FROM PAGE 1

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IN PHOTOS

Bacow’s First Four Years

University President Lawrence S. Bacow’s first four years at Harvard have been marked by pomp, protest, and the pandemic. Below are the images of his presidency so far, from his inauguration to Commencement 2022.

During a 2019 visit to China, University President Lawrence S. Bacow spoke about the value of academic freedom and met with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

COURTESY OF TIMOTHY O’ROURKE

Lawrence S. Bacow responds to divestment protestors who interrupted an Institute of Politics event in 2019.

AMY Y. LI—CRIMSON PHOTOGRAPHER

Lawrence S. Bacow stands with his predecessor, Drew G. Faust, at his inauguration ceremony in October 2018.

KATHRYN S. KUHAR—CRIMSON PHOTOGRAPHER

Bacow spoke in April 2022 after Harvard released a landmark report detailing the legacy of slavery, race, and wealth in the University.

JULIAN J. GIORDANO—CRIMSON PHOTOGRAPHER

University President Lawrence S. Bacow shakes hands with graduating students in the Class of 2022 at their Commencement ceremony on May 26.

JULIAN J. GIORDANO—CRIMSON PHOTOGRAPHER

University President Lawrence S. Bacow reads a statement at an Institute of Politics event in 2019.

JOSIE W. CHEN—CRIMSON PHOTOGRAPHER


KAI R. MCNAMEE—CRIMSON PHOTOGRAPHER

Lawrence S. Bacow speaks to Sally Chen ’19 at a February 2019 demonstration, where students and alumni called for the creation of an Ethnic Studies program at Harvard.

AMANDA Y. SU—CRIMSON PHOTOGRAPHER

In December 2021 interview with The Crimson, University President Lawrence S. Bacow spoke about Harvard’s efforts to increase on-campus operations.

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KATHRYN S. KUHAR—CRIMSON PHOTOGRAPHER

University President Lawrence S. Bacow (left) and Chinese President Xi Jinping (right) during a meeting in Beijing in March 2012.

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