

SUMMERS RESIGNS

SHORTEST TERM SINCE CIVIL WAR; BOK WILL BE INTERIM CHIEF

Faculty Uproar Led To Ouster

After lengthy battle, some vindicated, others dejected—No-confidence vote unlikely

By **EVAN H. JACOBS**  
and **ANTON S. TROIANOVSKI**  
CRIMSON STAFF WRITERS

The Faculty and the president have struggled for control of Harvard's largest arm for much of the four years, seven months, and 21 days since Lawrence H. Summers took office. Yesterday, it appeared, the Faculty won. "It's extraordinarily sad that it came to this," said McKay Professor of Mechanical Engineering Frederick H. Abernathy, one of the Summers critics who emerged from the woodwork to confront the president at an explosive meeting of the full Faculty two weeks ago. "At long last, this is over," Abernathy said yesterday. While public spats between prominent professors and the president captured media attention, many of the key moments in Summers' fight with the Faculty occurred behind closed doors. For instance, a technical dispute over doctoral degrees last year does as much to explain the rift as do the splashier headlines of the last half-decade. Certainly, Summers lost some support in the early months of his presidency when he sparred with an African-American Studies professor, Cornel R. West '74, who soon departed for a post at Princeton. And Summers' remarks on women in science last January further eroded his popularity. But the relative calm that prevailed publicly after Summers lost a Faculty no-confidence vote last March disguised a deeper rift. The real roots—and the full extent—of the Faculty's continued discontent with the president are only now becoming clear. "It's been hard for the professors to explain the problem," said Andrew Gordon '74, chair of the History Department. "A lot of it has to do with decisions that are made in confidence and probably should remain in confidence."

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University President Lawrence H. Summers emerged from his office yesterday to speak to a crowd of supporters and members of the media. "This has not been a simple day in my life," Summers said.

President Says Rifts With FAS Ran Too Deep

Tenure Will End June 30

By **JAVIER C. HERNANDEZ**  
CRIMSON STAFF WRITER

University President Lawrence H. Summers announced yesterday that he would step down from his post at the end of June, bringing to an end the shortest tenure of a Harvard chief since the Civil War. Derek C. Bok, who led Harvard from 1971 to 1991, will serve as interim president effective July 1, the University announced. Summers' resignation ended his fever-pitched fight with Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS) professors—a battle that was headed for a Feb. 28 showdown when the full Faculty was scheduled to consider a motion of no confidence in the president's leadership. Two events sparked the most recent round of rancor between Summers and FAS members. First, at the end of January, Faculty Dean William C. Kirby resigned amid reports in The Crimson that he was fired by Summers. Then, at a Feb. 7 meeting of the full Faculty, Summers said he was "not able to make any informed response" to questions about his role in a federal fraud scandal involving his longtime friend, Jones Professor of Economics Andrei Shleifer '82. Summers put resignation rumors to rest shortly after 1 p.m. yesterday, when he e-mailed the entire Harvard community to confirm that he would step down and that he plans to return as a professor in 2007. With that announcement, Summers is set to serve the shortest tenure of any Harvard president since Cornelius C. Felton, Class of 1827, who was named Harvard's leader in 1860 and died in office two years later. Yesterday evening, in his first sit-down interview since announcing his resignation, a calm Summers said he had made up his mind last Wednesday to leave Mass. Hall. "It looked to me like the magnitudes of the rifts with certain segments of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences faculty were at a level where I thought it would be very difficult for us to advance on a whole set of fronts," Summers said. Calling the resignation "as difficult a decision that I've had to make," Summers said that he consulted with members of the Harvard Corporation—the University's highest governing body with the sole authority to fire the president—prior to reaching a conclusion. "I wasn't sure at all what the right course was," he said, adding that he also sought advice from friends, family, and professional colleagues. By the time he left campus Thursday for a "long-planned" ski vacation in Utah with his family, Summers said he had already reached a final decision.

**'CLEAR SENSE OF HOSTILITY'**

While Summers had long suffered from frosty relations with some segments of the Faculty, his troubles deepened on Jan. 14 of last year, when he told an academic conference that "issues of intrinsic aptitude" might partly

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**INSIDE**

A Tumultuous Tenure

Summers' bold goals were overshadowed by strife and political controversy.

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Strong Support Outside FAS

Some graduate school deans, faculty rally behind outgoing president.

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Donors, Alums Lament Loss

Graduates regret chief's departure, but say fundraising outlook remains bright.

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Students React

Groups of undergrads cheered Summers in the Yard, asking him to stay; others popped champagne to celebrate his ouster.

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In Encore, Bok Faces Familiar Challenges

By **DANIEL J. T. SCHUKER**  
CRIMSON STAFF WRITER

Derek C. Bok, Harvard's president from 1971 to 1991, will serve as Harvard's interim leader after University President Lawrence H. Summers steps down on July 1, the Harvard Corporation announced in a statement yesterday. The Corporation, the University's top governing body, asked the 75-year-old Bok to hold the post until a new president is inaugurated, according to the letter. In his second go-around in Mass. Hall, Bok faces a challenge that parallels the one he confronted when he took the reins in 1971. At the beginning of his tenure, Bok earned a reputation as a composed and effective leader who successfully dealt with a campus bitterly divided over the Vietnam War, the University's ties to the military, and race relations at the school. Bok's reputation as a consensus-builder still resonates among many faculty members today, who see his brief upcoming tenure as a chance to restore

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For Many, a Surreal Scene in the Yard

By **LIZ C. GOODWIN**  
and **SAMUEL P. JACOBS**  
CRIMSON STAFF WRITERS

Aspiring Harvard undergrad Stephanie Bianchi had no idea when she left the calm shores of Put-in-Bay, Ohio—population 128—to visit Harvard that she would land in the middle of University President Lawrence H. Summers' historic resignation. "I'm speechless, I guess," Bianchi said yesterday, flanked by her younger brother and bundled-up parents. "This seems to be a historic day," Bianchi's father added. Summers emerged from Mass. Hall around 4 p.m. yesterday to address a crowd of almost 150 spectators—including members of the national media and groups of cheering students—only a few hours after officially announcing his resignation. Jumping over a hedge and accidentally knocking over at least one photographer, Summers was engulfed by a sea of friendly students who offered handshakes and words of encouragement. Police and security guards watched from a distance as students greeted Summers with chants of "Stay, Larry, stay,"

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University Summers Lawrence H. Summers dispensed high-fives to supporters gathered outside his Mass. Hall office yesterday afternoon.