



OPTICAL SCIENCES

Moments of Refraction

BLOCK PARTY: Three blocks of gradient index polymer demonstrate their differing indices of refraction in the laboratory of Duncan Moore '74 (PhD), the Rudolf and Hilda Kingslake Professor of Optical Engineering at the Institute of Optics. As a three-color "white light" laser passes through the blocks, the light bends toward the side of each block with a larger index of refraction. Since each of the three colors bends at a different rate, the beam spreads out into its separate color components.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ADAM FENSTER

