FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| l | OMB APPRO               | VAL       |  |  |  |  |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|
|   | OMB Number:             | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |
| l | Estimated average burde | en        |  |  |  |  |
| l | hours per response:     | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |

|        | Check this box if no longer subject to |
|--------|--|
| $\neg$ | Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5           |
| _      | obligations may continue. See          |
|        | Instruction 1(b).                      |

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  Loewald Thomas W |  |      |          |              |  | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol HARVARD BIOSCIENCE INC [ HBIO ] |         |  |   |        |   |          |             |   | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  X Director 10% Owner |                           |  |  |             |  |
|--|--|------|----------|--------------|--|--|---------|--|---|--------|---|----------|-------------|---|---|---------------------------|--|--|-------------|--|
| Luewaiu Tiluilias w  |  |      |          |              |  |  |         |  |   |        |   |          |             |   |   | ector                     |  | 10% O  | wner        |  |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 84 OCTOBER HILL RD.                |  |      |          |              |  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/02/2018                        |         |  |   |        |   |          |             |   |   | icer (give title<br>ow)   |  | Other (<br>below)  | (specify    |  |
|  |  |      |          |              | 1 If   | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                           |         |  |   |        |   |          |             |   | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable   |                           |  |  |             |  |
| (Street)   |  |      |          |              |  | 4. II Americinent, Date of Original Flied (Month/Day/Year)                         |         |  |   |        |   |          |             |   | Line)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person   |                           |  |  |             |  |
| HOLLISTON MA 01746   |  |      |          |              |  |  |         |  |   |        |   |          |             | Fo  | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person  |                           |  |  |             |  |
| (City) (State) (Zip)                                       |  |      |          |              |  |  |         |  |   |        |   |          |             |   | Pe  | 15011                     |  |  |             |  |
|  |  | Tabl | e I - No | n-Deriv      | ative  | Sec  | curitie | s Ac   | quired,   | Dis    | posed o   | f, or    | Bene        | ficia   | lly Ow  | ned                       |  |  |             |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Da |  |      |          |              |  | Execution Date,  |         |  | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)  4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4) 5) |        |   |          |             | d Secu<br>Bend<br>Own                               | mount of<br>irities<br>eficially<br>ed Following<br>orted                                     | Fori                      | ownership<br>m: Direct<br>or Indirect<br>Instr. 4)                       | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)  |             |  |
|  |  |      |          |              |  |  |         |  | Code  | v      | Amount  | ()<br>(I | A) or<br>D) | Price   | Tran  | saction(s)<br>r. 3 and 4) |  |  | (IIISti. 4) |  |
| Common Stock 01/0  |  |      |          |              | /2018  | 2018   |         | A  |   | 11,400 | (1)   | A \$0.00 |             | 00  | 13,700 <sup>(2)</sup>   |                           | D  |  |             |  |
|  |  | Та   |          |              |  |  |         |  |   |        | sed of,<br>onvertib   |          |             |   | y Owne  | d                         |  |  |             |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)        | tive conversion or Exercises (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) Price of Derivative Security |      |          | Code (<br>8) | of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |  |         | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) |   |        | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr.<br>and 4) |          | unt         | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) |   | ,                         | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |             |  |
|  |  |      |          |              | Code   | V  | (A)     | (D)  | Exercisal   | ole    | Date  | Title    | Shai        | es  |   |                           |  |  |             |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. Represents a deferred stock award of 11,400 restricted stock units which vest quarterly in equal installments on March 31, 2018, June 30, 2018, September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2018, and are subject to continued service as a non-employee director on the applicable vesting dates. These retainer awards are granted in lieu and satisfaction of the annual cash retainer compensation to be earned by the director for his service on the Issuer's Board of Directors and its Committees during 2018. The number of shares of common stock subject to such retainer award is equal to the amount of cash that would have been received had the retainers all been paid in cash, divided by the average daily closing market price of the Issuer's common stock for the month of November, rounded to the nearest 100 shares.

2. Includes (a) a deferred stock award of 11,400 restricted stock units which vest quarterly in equal installments on March 31, 2018, June 30, 2018, September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2018; and (b) 2,300 shares of common stock held by the Reporting Person.

## Remarks:

The form has been signed under power of attorney.

/s/ Chad Porter, by power of attorney 01/04/2018

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.