

Athletic director shoots for change



Giving ice buckets the cold shoulder



Students become PAs in LA



The Berkeley Beacon

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Emerson to dispute sexual assault lawsuit allegations

Christina Jedra, *Beacon Staff*

Emerson plans to dispute the allegations outlined in a lawsuit filed by a former student who alleges the school mishandled her rape case, according to Andrew Tiedemann, vice president of communications.

Jillian Doherty filed suit against the college and four administrators last month, alleging violations of Title IX—a section of the federal Educational Amendments of 1972 that protects students from discrimination based on gender—and the Jeanne Clery Act, which requires colleges to disclose campus crime information. It also alleges “negligence, negligent infliction of emotional distress, and intentional infliction of emotional distress.”

“While we are sympathetic to Ms. Doherty and any survivor of sexual assault, Emerson intends to defend the complaint, which contains many assertions that we dispute,” Tiedemann wrote in an emailed statement to the Beacon. “Emerson has provided support to Ms. Doherty and offered her reasonable accommodations. Emerson College expelled her assailant.”

Doherty could not be reached for comment for this article but had previously referred questions to her attorney, David P. Angueira of Swartz & Swartz.

In the suit, Doherty accuses President M. Lee Pelton; Dean of Students Ronald Ludman; Director of Housing and Residence Life David Haden; and Michael Arno, the Director of the Office of Student Conduct and the case's Title IX investigator, of mishandling her rape case, which she said she reported to the school in March 2013.

The defendants were given 21 days after the lawsuit summons was served to the college to file an answer, per federal guidelines. Based on when Emerson was served, a response is due Sept. 15, according to Christine Hughes, Emerson's vice president and general counsel.

The suit, filed on Aug. 8, says Doherty is



President Pelton announced the unveiling of the new program in an email to the Emerson community on Tuesday. • Jack Adams/ *Beacon Staff*

seeking “compensatory and punitive damages resulting from her pain and suffering resulting from the Defendants’ deliberate indifference,” in addition to legal fees.

“It is customary for plaintiffs’ attorneys to name individual employees of a non-profit institution in negligence cases,” Tiedemann wrote in his statement. In lawsuits where the defendant is a nonprofit, like Emerson, Tiedemann noted that Massachusetts law limits the amount that a court can award the plaintiff.

“Naming individuals of a non-profit is a standard way of evading that cap,” Tiedemann's statement continued. “The College believes the individual defendants named acted in good faith and within the scope of

“Emerson... offered [Doherty] reasonable accommodations.”
—Andrew Tiedemann, vice president of communications

their duties.”

Doherty was a junior writing, literature, and publishing major when she withdrew from the college in Spring 2014, according to the lawsuit. However, according to the Office of the Registrar, Doherty is still a student at the college.

Angueira said in an interview with the Beacon last month that Doherty hopes the case will improve the way Emerson handles sexual assault.

“You’d be surprised by how often, because of a lawsuit, many institutions or companies will recognize the need to change their policies,” said Angueira. “I think that incentive

See *Lawsuit page 2*

Pelton unveils restructured sexual assault prevention and response program

Rebecca Fiore, *Beacon Staff*

Emerson College announced that it has created its first comprehensive sexual misconduct policy, as part of a new program designed to prevent sexual assaults and reform the school's handling of future cases.

These changes, which were announced in an email from President M. Lee Pelton Tuesday, come almost a year after three Emerson students filed a federal Title IX complaint with the Department of Education, alleging the college mishandled their sexual assault cases. Soon after, Emerson commissioned an internal review of its policies on sexual assault response and prevention, led by Sylvia Spears, vice president for diversity and inclusion. The college also contracted Margolis Healy & Associates, a professional services firm that specializes in campus safety, to perform an external review. The school has said neither review was ordered in response to the federal complaint.

This new program is based on recommendations from both reviews, according to Pelton's email. Pelton wrote that the new program will focus on five areas: providing care and support to survivors; preventing sexual assault through education; adjudicating complaints; enhancing the training for faculty, staff, and students; and conducting campus climate surveys every two years.

Sarita Nadkarni, one of three students who filed a federal Title IX complaint in October 2013, said she is happy to see the college take steps toward combating sexual assault, but she wishes she had been part of the process.

“The thing that is still bugging me is that no one has ever actually contacted us. They are just rebounding. If this rebound created this program then that's great,” said the senior visual and media arts major. “I want to be a part of it as well.”

In an interview with the Beacon, Pelton said the program originates from an effort that started in 2011.

“We doubled those efforts in the spring of 2013,” he said. “The national discourse has quickened the pace.”

The college has, for the first time, created a specific sexual misconduct policy as part of the program.

“In the past, certainly sexual misconduct was prohibited on our campus,” Spears said in an interview, “but it was embedded in our sexual harassment policy and non-discrimination policy.”

The new policy defines “consent” and outlines the rights survivors have, from date of report through resolution, Spears said.

Emerson received further attention for its handling of sexual assault cases again

See *Program page 2*

THE FEATURE

College and career intersect during LA program

Danielle Herrera, *Beacon Staff*

With a month left before graduation, Emily Grill, like many other college students, felt lost and nervous about what would come next. As a performing arts major with a concentration in acting and minors in directing and choreography, Grill didn't know which direction to take her degree. Then, the Emerson Los Angeles Campus summer session gave provided her a breakthrough.

After taking courses at the LA program over the summer, Grill said she finally understood the business side of acting and realized the steps she needed to take once she graduated.

The new state of the art, technologically advanced campus, located on Sunset Boulevard in the heart of Hollywood, hosted

45 students over the summer, whose majors ranged from visual and media arts to writing, literature and publishing.

Grill was among a small group of 5 students that went to the summer program specifically for its acting courses.

According to Brad Lemack, director of experiential learning at Emerson Los Angeles, the LA summer program involves working with real life companies and learning the ins and outs of the business.

Lemack, who is also a professor of the acting classes and the experiential internship course said he believes students get a transitional learning experience from the LA summer program.

Lemack said, in his experience, the LA program is where undergraduate and graduate performing arts students go after they've learned their craft in Boston, and

want to master the business side of the industry.

According to Grill, she learned how to write an acting resume, how to take memorable headshots, how to research companies and agencies best fit for her concentration, and how to make professional connections in Lemack's Business of Acting class.

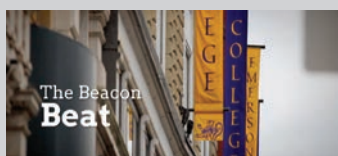
This summer acting program also brought various members of the acting industry into the classroom to meet and speak with students.

Because of the small size of the classrooms in the summer program, Grill was able to have intimate one-on-one discussions with casting directors, agents, working actors, managers and headshot photographers.

See *LA page 6*

“It was a reality check and showed me exactly what I need to know and do as an actor.”
—Emily Grill, performing arts graduate

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news

College boosts campus security

New Tap and Go system becomes permanent



Students should have IDs ready to prevent delays • Jack Adams/ Beacon Staff

Christina Jedra, Beacon Staff

After a trial run this spring and a divided student survey, Emerson's 24-7 security procedure, Tap and Go, has become permanent.

To enter an Emerson building, everyone is now required to tap their college identification card or be signed in as a guest by a member of the student body, staff, or faculty. Previously, visitors were not required to show identification from 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except to enter residence halls, according to Emerson Police Chief Robert Smith who announced the change in an email to the Emerson community last month.

"It does make the college a safer place that we know who's in our buildings," Smith said in an interview with the Beacon.

In a survey of 1175 students and members of the faculty and staff conducted after the pilot program, 66 percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that "campus officials should restrict access to campus by those not affiliated with Emerson" and that Tap and Go was "easy to comply with."

However, when asked if they were in favor of implementing the program on a permanent basis, respondents were divided almost evenly.

In addition, 46 percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that Tap and Go made Emerson safer, while 24 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed with that statement.

According to an Emerson College Police Department Tap and Go data review provided to the Beacon, reports of theft, graffiti, sex offenses, and suspect investigations decreased during the pilot period compared to the same time frame from the past four years. There were no in-

School to replace "out of date" camera system

Christina Jedra, Beacon Staff

The school plans to upgrade its security camera system in the next several months, Emerson Police Chief Robert Smith announced in August. Currently, almost all of Emerson's security cameras lack recording capability, and the few that do record are only viewed in the case of a potential crime, Smith said.

The school will replace what Smith called out of date cameras—located in places like building exteriors and outside computer labs—with models from a single manufacturer, and Emerson College police will monitor the footage from their dispatch center at 211 Tremont Street, according to Smith.

The upgrade is a response to a recommendation by a safety committee Smith chaired which was formed shortly after the elementary school shooting in Newtown, Conn. The committee of students, staff, and faculty members reviewed data from an investigation Smith conducted of Boston area college security to com-

creases in reports of disorderly conduct, vandalism, suspicious activity, trespassing, shoplifting, or burglary during the pilot.

According to the post-pilot survey, 57 percent agreed or strongly agreed that Tap and Go did not disrupt their schedules, while 36 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed.

"I only noticed crowding on days when it was cold or windy because no one wanted to stay outside for too long. There's definitely more of a build up the closer it gets to a class starting," said senior visual and media arts major Connor Buso-Jarnis.

As in the past, only residents of their assigned residence halls will gain entry with their IDs. Guest policies remain the same for students, while faculty and staff may register guests in advance through an online system. Smith said early sign-in capabilities were not extended to students to avoid causing more change than necessary.

This security procedure, which has been implemented every summer since 2004, can be both a comfort and a hindrance, according to students.

"I'm cool with it if it keeps people safe or at least makes them feel that way," said Buso-Jarnis.

But G'Ra Asim, a writing, literature, and publishing major who graduated this spring, said he was frustrated with the program when he visited the Center for Health and Wellness in August to pick up immunization records he needs for graduate school. Asim said the security guard wouldn't admit him into the building without being accompanied by a current student or faculty member, and the health office wasn't answering the phone. The security guard eventually signed Asim in himself.

"I just finished in May, so it seems odd that I'm instantly a stranger, according to the Tap and Go system," Asim said. "Having to validate yourself as a student each time you enter a building on a campus you pay a lot of money to belong to seems a little obnoxious. But if it makes everyone safer, then I suppose that is a small price to pay."

According to Smith, there will be additional security officers at the Ansin and Walker buildings for the first few days of the semester to guide entrants and remind them of alternative entrances, like the often less-crowded Boylston Place entrance to the Walker building.

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pare Emerson security with other local institutions.

Smith estimates Emerson currently has over 60 cameras across the campus but will have 85 after the update. The additional cameras will be placed on building exteriors and the field at Rotch Playground in South Boston where Emerson athletics take place, he said in an email.

"It isn't a lot when you look at other schools," he said, noting that Berklee College of Music has about 300 cameras.

Smith said the ECPD dispatch center currently monitors only a small number of campus cameras, while other cameras are monitored by the staff of the location that requested their installation, such as the Iwasaki Library or Equipment Distribution Center.

"They have proven to be of limited value in investigations," he said.

Smith said the upgraded cameras will be able to record and could be useful in investigating campus crimes.

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Emerson plans to dispute suit's allegations

Continued from page 1

is a major part of why Jillian decided to go public with this claim."

According to the lawsuit, Doherty was raped by a male Emerson student following a consensual act in his dorm room in April 2012. The lawsuit says after the alleged assault, Doherty was "confused and conflicted" about the incident, and "out of fear and concern about her privacy and how she would be treated as a rape victim," she did not report it until almost a year later.

The lawsuit argues Emerson did not take proper precautionary measures to prevent Doherty's alleged assault and did not adequately handle the investigation after the event was reported.

The Beacon decided to withhold the name of the accused male student in Doherty's sexual assault case because he is not a defendant. He declined to comment for this article.

As an institution that receives federal funds, Emerson is required to follow Title IX guidelines following a student's sexual assault. The lawsuit says the school failed to do this in several ways, including failing to train administrators, educate students about consent, and establish "adequate timelines for the prompt investigation and resolution of complaints."

Emerson is currently included on a list of colleges and universities the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights is investigating for mishandling cases of sexual violence and harassment. According to previous reports, Doherty was joined by two other Emerson students in filing a Title IX complaint with that office in October. Doherty's lawsuit says there was a fourth student involved in that Title IX complaint.

The suit claims that Emerson's Title IX investigator, Michael Arno, was "not properly trained, educated, or experienced in Title IX investigations," which resulted in an inadequate examination of Doherty's case.

The suit says a brief hearing for Doherty's



Angueira said the college did not respond appropriately to his client's alleged assault. Jack Adams/ Beacon Staff

case took place over Skype in May 2013 but that the proceeding was "more akin to a kangaroo court than a Title IX hearing"; there were no witnesses and Doherty did not have a lawyer. The defendant in this initial case was found "not responsible for the rape," the suit says.

According to the suit, Doherty appealed the decision and a second, four hour hearing was held in October 2013. Led by different administrators, Doherty had an attorney and witnesses were able to testify. The lawsuit says one of those witnesses was Arno, who admitted he "did not have enough training" during the initial investigation. After this second hearing, the suit says the alleged rapist was "found responsible" and was expelled from the school.

The lawsuit says that due to the alleged assault and the mishandling of her case, Doherty experienced severe emotional distress, chronic depression, and post-traumatic stress, in addition to declining grades in her courses.

"Jillian Doherty endured months of pain and suffering following the attack," states the lawsuit, "which was caused by Emerson College's blatant indifference towards her, and towards its obligations both prior to and after the attack occurred and the complaint was filed."

In his statement, Tiedemann pointed to Emerson's new sexual assault prevention and response program as evidence that handling these issues is a priority of the school.

"Emerson College takes sexual misconduct very seriously and did so in [Doherty's] case," he wrote. "The College will continue to take the steps necessary to address this societal problem that exists on all college campuses as well as in the greater community."

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Program includes revised policy, new hires

Continued from page 1

last month when a former student, Jillian Doherty, filed a federal lawsuit against the college and four administrators, including Pelton. The school has not yet filed a response in this case.

Mary-Kate Carr, a sophomore visual and media arts major, said colleges like Emerson seem to take action only after students speak out.

"A lot of colleges should have done more to begin with."

The other two students involved in the Title IX complaint, Doherty and Sarah Tedesco, could not be reached for immediate comment.

In providing care and support for survivors, the college plans to search for a survivor advocate, and someone to fill the position of associate vice president and Title IX & Clery Act coordinator. The two positions will work with Melanie Matson, director of violence prevention and response/survivor advocate, and Spears, respectively.

The survivor advocate interviews—which will include open sessions for students, faculty, and staff—started this week. No students attended besides a Beacon reporter. A hiring decision will be made by mid-semester, Spears said, and the associate vice president and Title IX & Clery Act coordinator interviews will not start until November. The college also invited students to participate in the process to hire the position for which Matson was eventually selected, but only a handful attended the various meetings last spring.

As a part of the program, Emerson launched a website for the Office of Violence Prevention and Response. A new initiative, Emerson STANDS—Stand Together-Act Now-Do Something—will encourage students to step in during certain social settings, according to the official press release.

"It is the case that if we can reduce or address the small fraction of repeat offend-

ers then we can have an enormous impact on sexual assault and violence on campus," he told the Beacon. "Part of the thinking of changing the climate with the STANDS program is intervening before sexual assault occurs."

Pelton said the new program's website is meant to be helpful for everyone in the Emerson community.

"All of us have a role to play. We are all implicated in this issue because if it is permitted to grow and fester, then it undermines a core activity of learning."

The plan also aims to enhance the sexual assault prevention training for students, staff, and faculty members. Spears said both resident assistants and orientation leaders had a significant amount of training this year as part of the plan.

"RAs are among about a group of 400 or more that are considered campus security authorities, which means they are responsible for the students," Spears said.

Spears said there were changes to this fall's orientation to ensure that incoming students understood what consent is, and how they can support one another.

"As we make progress in refining our training programs throughout the year, we will continue to enhance and adjust the orientation training," she said.

Sophomore Bridget Kiernan said she feels comfortable on campus.

"I do remember being told about [sexual assault prevention] during orientation," said the visual and media arts major. "I feel like we are on a very safe campus."

Pelton said the plan is forward-thinking, and could be a model for other colleges.

"We have to be open to improvement," he said.

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"We are all implicated in this issue because if it is permitted to grow and fester, then it undermines a core activity of learning."
— President Pelton

editorial

New year, new initiatives

At issue:

The start of the new school year brings the introduction of fresh initiatives

Our take:

Let's follow through this time

A new school year has begun at Emerson, and with it, the inevitable surge of new initiatives from students and the administration. With this fresh influx of energy—amid the hustle and bustle of new classes, new clubs and orgs, and new goals—we have the opportunity to change how we, as a community, react to these proposals.

The most prominent of these changes is the large-scale reform to the sexual assault response and response programs. It is important that the values and priorities established at the close of last year remain at the forefront of our school's culture. This new set of guiding protocols introduced by President M. Lee Pelton provides not only a process that meets victims of alleged sexual assault with more options and understanding, but an opportunity for members of the larger Emerson community. As students, our connection to this institution and its practices extend far beyond our class schedule. Rather, it is incumbent upon us to take advantage of this new direction, spearheaded by the school's administration, that many of us demanded just a year ago.

When a group of students filed a federal complaint against the college last October, accusing administrators of mishandling their sexual assault cases, many were quick to post to social media expressing their outrage. Hundreds of students packed into the Cutler Majestic Theatre to share stories, pledge support, and question administrators.

Similarly, when Pelton announced his series of talks surrounding gun violence after the Newtown, Conn. school shooting, there was a groundswell of support. The first few talks required additional screening rooms, where the panel discussions were broadcast on television.

But as months passed, this energy waned. When students were invited to participate in the hiring process for a sexual assault prevention and response advocate last January, just four attended the first event—and no students attended the final session. Administrators found it difficult to fill a room during later gun violence panel discussions as well.

As students, we've dropped the ball in the past, but the administration is also responsible for proposing new pro-

We have the opportunity to change how we, as a community, react to this school year's new proposals.

grams and resources that we eventually stop hearing about. Every year, curriculum changes are announced—from new internship credit policies to larger course selection practices—that we still haven't seen put in place. And students still must look at the Little Building scaffolding, a constant reminder of the promised, but not yet fulfilled, renovations. As stakeholders in the Emerson community, students have the right to make sure their needs are met, and it is our privilege and responsibility to hold administrators accountable when they don't keep their pledges.

Let's learn our lessons and push forward. We can do better this year. We owe it to our school, and ourselves, to truly follow up on our promises this time.

Editorials are written solely by Editor-in-Chief Ryan Catalani, Managing Editors Jason Madanjian, Jackie Tempera, and Katy Rushlau, Opinion Editor Hunter Harris, and Assistant Opinion Editor Dan Blomquist, without consultation from other staff members, and do not influence other stories. Op-Eds reflect the views of only their authors, and not The Berkeley Beacon.

Letters

Dear Resident Assistants and Orientation Leaders,

On behalf of all of us at the College, I want to express my deep appreciation for the extraordinary welcome you provided to our newest Emersonians and their families. Your generosity of spirit, elbow grease and heart were nothing short of priceless, creating a beautiful sense of belonging for our new students. Undoubtedly your efforts and kindnesses helped our first year and transfer students better understand what we value

as a community and the values under which we all wish to live, work and learn.

Emerson is enormously fortunate to have you as students. Thanks for all you have done and for all I know you will continue to do in the days ahead. Wishing you a wonderful semester and I hope you have begun to catch up on some sleep.

All the Best,
Dean Ludman

If you want to respond to, or share an opinion about, an article in the Beacon, you can write a short letter to the editor. Email it to letters@berkeleybeacon.com. Please note that letters may be edited. Submissions for print must be shorter than 250 words.

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An Einstein Bros. Bagels cafe opens on campus with a noticeable price increase



opinion

Ice ice maybe: Throwing cold water on viral challenge



The ALS Association ice bucket challenge has raised nearly \$90 million dollars to fund. • Photo illustration by Jack Adams

Dan Blomquist
Blomquist is a sophomore journalism major and assistant opinion editor of the Beacon.

The Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association, or ALS, Ice Bucket Challenge is difficult to disagree with. It's raised nearly \$90 million dollars for charity, after all. Sure, there was that one guy who died from it, according to the New Zealand Herald, but hey, sacrifice one for 350,000, the number of people currently afflicted with the disease in the world.

One could argue that a challenge with this much success would be more useful if directed at a more common disease like cancer. More than 13 million people in the US alone are afflicted with some form of that malady. The money could have also gone to a charity more likely to get results. Researching a disease doesn't necessarily mean that a cure will be found; money put towards things like education and water purification have immediate and tangible results.

Regardless, these arguments only suggest ways that the challenge could have gone better. That doesn't mean that the Ice Bucket Challenge isn't fantastic—it simply could have been more fantastic. After all, the ALS Association, the beneficiary of this ice water stunt, raised \$88 million dollars in one month; in the same time period last year, the charity received under \$3 million.

Proving that the Ice Bucket Challenge is

problematic requires considering some ugly aspects of our generation. Millennials have unique issues that seem to have plagued every popular social movement since our generation became old enough to create change. Simply put, the Ice Bucket Challenge is a symptom of two much larger diseases: moral licensing and narcissism.

Social advocacy stunts like Kony 2012 or the Ice Bucket Challenge have notoriously short lifespans, and many of the participants spend the rest of the year not doing anything for charity. Psychologists refer to this as moral licensing, the idea that doing good things "lasts a while" and that we don't need to donate consistently in order to have a positive impact. In fact, we often feel licensed to do things we would normally consider immoral because it "balances out." When this trend dies and the funds stop flowing in as rapidly, which may be as soon as mid-September, we may very well have found no other tools to help us fight ALS.

Moral licensing is only half of the prob-

lem, for the would-be social reformers of our generation are also prone to a fundamental misunderstanding of how charity works, coupled with a childish need for attention.

A popular criticism of the ALS Association fundraising tactic is that participants are using a self-centered video as a way to avoid donating to charity. The Daily Mirror, a British tabloid, ran some

The money donated to the ALS Association as a result of the challenge is a good thing, but is indicative of a culture of ignorance and simplicity.

numbers on Aug. 27 and found that based on the number of known Ice Bucket Challenge videos, approximately \$122 million dollars would have been raised if everyone that posted the videos also donated. This number is likely an underestimate because it only accounts for a limited number of videos posted online, and many of the celebrities who've done the challenge generally donated five to six figure sums, which would create a final total that should far exceed the mere \$88 million the ALS Association has reported in donations. All things considered, it's safe to assume that the majority of those taking the challenge are doing it for the likes or the upvotes or whatever meaningless reward

system is used by the site on which they're posting.

What really saddens me about this narcissistic water splashing is that it's almost a good idea. If the challenge were merely to donate to charity, there would be absolutely nothing wrong with it. However, Ice Bucket Challenge advocates can't seem to stomach the concept of fighting disease simply because it's a good idea and instead trick themselves into doing it through a self-congratulatory game that revolves around who can make themselves look the dumbest while cold and wet.

The money donated to the ALS Association as a result of the challenge is a good thing, but is indicative of a culture of ignorance and simplicity. Listening to people who suddenly consider themselves experts on ALS because they threw ice water on themselves makes me think that even if we find a cure for ALS, a host of other cultural ailments have been brought to the forefront.

At the very least, if you're going through the trouble to shower your head with ice water so we'll pay attention to you, at least learn something about ALS. I still haven't met a single Ice Bucket Challenger that has.

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Whose tolerance is it anyway?

Ross Middleton
Middleton is a junior writing, literature, and publishing major.

Many people see Emerson as a school that is tolerant of all walks of life. However, this tolerance does not always extend past the viewpoints the majority agrees with.

It's safe to say that at Emerson, a majority of students support a left-leaning ideology. Though our campus is no longer in the top spot, Emerson is still ranked highly on the Princeton Review's list of top LGBTQ friendly colleges. In the same survey, Emerson students were also noted for their disinterest in sports and lack of religious affiliations.

While there is not necessarily anything wrong with liberalism, the majority that follows this ideology often leave the campus's minority populations—conservatives, religious people, athletes—without a discernible voice. In a school that prides itself on being accepting of everyone—including members of the LGBTQ community, people of color, and #soemerson oddballs of all shapes and sizes—we should give the same courtesies to those who simply have different views.

In my time at the Boston campus, I've seen some examples of this intolerance—which is not active hatred, but a passive dismissal—on the Emerson Confessional Facebook page. Recently, a girl posted she was scared to "come out" as Catholic because she worried no one would talk to her if she did. Why should she have to be afraid? In a college so tied to an identity of inclusivity regardless of sexuality or gender, this incoming freshman shouldn't have to feel petrified of not fitting in because of her religion.

This intolerance manifests itself in discreet ways, and some viewpoints are simply ignored. For example, athletic competitions have a notoriously low turnout rate. Religious points of view are

rarely accepted in classroom discussions, and conservative opinions even less so. Members of minority political parties at Emerson have little choice but to keep with their own.

Sometimes these campus cultural minorities are attacked, to the detriment of our entire community. For example, at a floor viewing party of the second inauguration of President Barack Obama, I saw a girl crying in an elevator of the Little Building. She explained to me that a group of people mocked and yelled at her simply because she voted for Mitt Romney.

Aren't we supposed to be better than this? If we're going to be adults, we have to learn how to accept different opin-

We should examine all perspectives, especially our own, and remove bias and hate from our community.

ions without immediately dismissing or rejecting them. We should examine all perspectives, especially our own, and remove bias and hate from our community.

We may say we are a tolerant campus, but tolerance does not mean accepting only the views of the people that we feel comfortable liking. It means that we must consider positions other than our own. Many Emerson students may believe we are open-minded, but those who have been silenced may say otherwise. Rather than rejecting other opinions, we should accept them and try to accommodate the people who have been disenfranchised by the culture of our school.

Without freedom of expression and thought, we would live in a separated society where people will have to blend in rather than be who they are. And to live without a true sense of identity is to not live at all.

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arts

Networking is the "muscle of the industry" for production assistants

Kavita Shah, *Beacon Staff*

Lenny Alcid practiced unwrapping the plastic on ten brand-new decks of cards before turning to his boss for approval, nervous to hear whether his attempt at a perfect crescent cut was up to the standard of magician David Blaine.

"I know one of the production runners before me was assigned to open the cards. They weren't doing it to expectation and he fired them," said Alcid, a sophomore visual and media arts major. "He's the type of person where he asks for two boxes and you don't ask why."

Alcid spent one month of his summer working as a production assistant, or PA, for David Blaine Productions in Manhattan. The company is essentially a documentary crew that follows and films Blaine's magic tricks, stunts, and performances.

Like several other Emerson students who worked as PAs over the summer, Alcid was tasked with what is commonly referred to as "gruntwork" for the production team and talent: running errands, writing notes, carrying equipment, and other odd jobs.

The job of a PA is relatively consistent despite varying types of programs and crew sizes. Alcid worked for a magician among a crew of 15 people, while sophomore writing, literature, and publishing major Jake Cannavale worked on the set of an HBO pilot with nearly 150 others. Claudio Zungri, a senior visual and media arts major, worked with a crew of roughly 40 people on promos and commercials for a company called Outerborough Pictures.

While Alcid's responsibilities were limited to mundane tasks like opening cards in a highly specific manner and running a stopwatch while Blaine held his breath underwater, he said that starting with an entry-level

position is helpful for aspiring producers to gain experience in the industry.

"Everyone starts there, at the bottom," he said. "It makes you realize that it's a lot about experience and who you know."

All three students acquired their positions through some sort of contact in the industry rather than an application-based selection process.

"Networking is everything," said Cannavale, whose father is working on the pilot and got him the job. "It's the muscle of the industry."

Zungri said that personal connections are inevitably one of the most important aspects of working in production. He acquired his position through a close family friend who was the assistant producer of the promos for this year's Video Music Awards.

"Lots of people I was talking to on set hadn't even gone to school but they happened to have those connections," Zungri said. "In the film industry you can go through school and work your way up, or have a connection and climb the ladder that way."

Zungri said he gained the most perspective into the production business by talking to fellow crewmembers during breaks.

"You can hear theories in class about what a producer does, but you can't really understand it until you're right there watching it," he said. "The real world isn't as structured as school is."

The team's schedule was based on the talent, Zungri said, meaning that they would sometimes have to be on-call as early as 4:30 a.m. or much later in the day, depending on when the talent was available.

Unpredictability aside, Zungri said the classes he has taken in Emerson's visual and media arts department thus far have prepared him well for his work experience. He said the sophistication of Emerson's pro-



Jake Cannavale, a sophomore, worked on the set of an HBO pilot. • *Portrait by Jack Adams / Beacon Staff*

**"The real world isn't as structured as school is."
—Claudio Zungri, senior visual media arts major**

gram and the ability to participate in group projects gave him a good preview of the environment of the MTV set he worked on over the summer.

"Emerson has taught me that the industry is a collaborative effort," he said. "No one single person can do a commercial."

Zungri and Alcid both described film production as a series of interlocking jobs and responsibilities. Alcid said that working on set taught him that even the smallest, seemingly unimportant aspects of a show matter in the long run.

"It's very mechanical and people often go undervalued," said Cannavale. "It makes you realize that there's so much more business

than art."

Alcid said that base-level internships allow aspiring producers to observe the day-to-day tasks of several different positions. The experience exposes interns to the hierarchy of the film industry, aiding them in the process of creating professional goals.

"This industry is all about crazy coincidences, connections, and luck," said Alcid. "I'm just lucky I didn't get asked to open the cards first."

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In new memoir, alum embraces the 'Gay Within'

Erica Mixon, *Beacon Staff*

To Jon Derek Croteau's father, Emerson was "the land of 'fairies, freaks, and misfits with purple hair,'" a place [Jon Derek] was to avoid at all costs." To Croteau, the college was a place to call home—a place where, after years of living in the closet, he began his journey of self-acceptance, which he wrote about in his upcoming memoir, *My Thinning Years: Starving the Gay Within*.

"I learned how to trust myself there because people trusted me," Croteau said of Emerson, in an interview with the Beacon. Though he originally enrolled at Bates College in Maine, Croteau only attended for three days, fearing that other students would "spot the gay in [him]."

Emerson was more fitting for Croteau, who transferred to the college in the fall of 1995 and described his experience there as "open, expressive, and freeing." Though he originally studied musical theater, Croteau had been writing stories since the seventh grade, and decided to switch to a major in writing, literature, and publishing, with a minor in psychology.

After graduating in 1998, Croteau went on to become a published author, writing books about management and leadership, as well as a senior partner at Witt/Kieffer, a company that provides leadership development to major institutions.

With the experience and knowledge he acquired through Emerson's creative writing classes and a desire to uncover his painful past, Croteau wrote the story of the struggle with his own sexuality. *My Thinning Years: Starving the Gay Within* will be released by Hazelden Publishing on Tuesday, Sept. 9.

At Emerson, Croteau took classes taught by Dr. Peter Corea, a former Emerson Psychology professor, who inspired him to focus on love.

"He talked about love; how it can heal most things, and I believe that," Croteau said, adding that his relationship with his husband, Justin, has helped him to move on from his tumultuous past.

Growing up, Croteau said he never truly



Jon Derek Croteau's new memoir, *My Thinning Years: Starving the Gay Within*, will be released Sept 9. • *Courtesy of Croteau*

felt he could express himself, mostly due to his oppressive father, who he describes in his memoir as the "oil to his water." Croteau recounted in *My Thinning Years* that his earliest memories of his father were "entangled with fear and anxiety," as Croteau struggled to fit the mold that his father tried to force him into: that of a macho athlete. While Croteau gravitated towards theater, his father's rules prevented him from auditioning in any play.

"My dad thought that a contact sport would make me 'tougher' and would get me into better shape," Croteau writes in his book. "It's good for you," he'd say. "It'll make you a real man."

Croteau's father was obsessed with his vision of perfection, according to Croteau. Constantly telling Croteau and his two siblings that they were chubby and out of shape, his father often forced his children to do push-ups and sit-ups.

"Food was an enemy for us," said Croteau, who developed an array of eating disorders throughout his adolescent years

that he described as a "symptom of his own self-hatred." In a 2014 article he wrote for the Huffington Post titled "Putting an End to Starving for Love," Croteau wrote, "I chose anorexia as my love so that no one else could really love me...It not only kept me thin, it kept me chaste, pure. It made me feel safe and secure like nothing else could."

Croteau's inner battle manifested more directly in a suicide attempt, an event that he recounts in his memoir. "I didn't prepare a note—I wanted to disappear for good," Croteau wrote. He prepared to asphyxiate himself by running his Bronco in his family's garage, but was saved by his sister before he suffered any physical effects.

As the media has increasingly shone light on the staggering amount of suicides in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community, Croteau said he felt he needed to share his story.

"Throughout my adolescence I was so silent about my sexual orientation," he said. "I felt like it was my turn to speak up."

Dr. Trudi Feinstein, a former psychology

**"Throughout my adolescence I was so silent about my sexual orientation...I felt like it was my turn to speak up."
—author Jon Derek Croteau**

professor at Emerson who formed a close relationship with Croteau during his time at the college, said that she believes the memoir will help people who are struggling to come out.

"What will heal [Jon] will also save lives," Feinstein said. "It will open up a dialogue among families who want to understand their children."

Feinstein, who currently teaches at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, said that she requires her students to read Croteau's memoir in her Gender Roles and Social Psychology classes.

"The only reason why I'm sharing so much of my intimate truth is to help others," Croteau said. "Maybe they have to hide the book under their pillow, but I hope to let them know that there is a better day."

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lifestyle

Acting gets real with LA summer program Internships provide BFA actors hands-on, Hollywood education

Continued from page 1

Grill said she and her class also learned the steps they needed to take after graduation. Instead of getting an agent right away, these acting students learned that they first need to get their work and name out there on casting websites before calling multiple agencies.

Reyn Beeler, a senior performing arts major, said he didn't know how influential the LA summer program would be until he got there.

"Honestly, I didn't really plan to go to LA with Emerson," he said. "As an actor, I didn't really know what it would offer me."

After some deliberation and advice from relatives and educational advisors, like David Griffin, the director of international study and external programs, Beeler re-thought the program.

"I met with David Griffin and he asked me one thing—'Are you planning on being an actor in LA?'—to which I replied yes," Beeler said. "He replied, 'Then you should do it,' and thus my move was set in motion."

The undergraduate acting concentration at Emerson has strict program requirements spread throughout four semesters. Acting students in the bachelor of fine arts program who want to study abroad can only take those extra credits during the summer or winter breaks.

Grill and Beeler also said they learned from their hands-on experience in internships, which students are required to have in the LA program. Lemack said he believes this is the most important lesson in the summer program.

"Students should know how critically important this program is to their development and how they can start to apply

what they've learned to their daily lives," he said. "There is no greater real life experience."

The difference between a regular semester and the summer semester is the amount of time students get to spend at their internships. Beeler and Grill, like most students in the summer, only took two classes including the internship course, instead of the usual three or four classes students take in the fall and spring, leaving more time to work an 8-hour shift in a fast-paced company.

According to Lemack, Emerson Los Angeles can either help students find the right companies to work for, or students can find internships independently. In either case, the internships they choose must relate to the fields they are studying at the LA campus.

After being accepted to an internship, the college then signs learning agreements with these companies, which contractually require them to give the students hands-on work, according to Lemack, so students can relate their experiences to what they are learning inside the classroom.

Beeler interned at Ideal Talent, an agency that has represented actors who have worked in films such as *The Dark Knight Rises*, *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn*, *The Wedding Singer*, and more.

Grill interned for Osbrink Agency, which specializes in younger talent and represents stars like Dakota Fanning and members of the Disney Channel. She said she believes that working for this company helped her focus her ambitions for after graduation.

"A required internship really forces you to go out there and learn," said Grill. "As an acting major, I think it's almost a disservice that actors aren't required to do the LA program. It was a reality check



Students gather in the fifth floor common kitchen room during the summer program session in Los Angeles. Courtesy of Iwan Baan

and showed me exactly what I need to know and do as an actor to get representation."

The other two requirements for the LA summer program are eight hours of community service and attendance at two professional workshops; both require students to write essays about their experiences to pass the course.

"The workshops are essentially required networking and also promotes proactivity," Lemack said. "As for the community service, we as Emerson students and alumni have the responsibility

to give back to the community. It's about the bigger picture and not just about who we are moment to moment."

For students like Grill and Beeler, attending the LA summer program solidified their decision to continue in the performing arts field.

"LA made my education exponentially useful," Beeler said, "and I firmly believe that a semester at the LA campus should be more extensively encouraged, maybe even made necessary."

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"LA made my education exponentially useful."
-Senior Reyn Beeler

A look inside boxes, relationships, and a BFA student film

Anna Buckley, *Beacon Staff*

Jeffrey Bloom made his way about the crowded apartment, finding a path through boxes, balloons, and hanging streamers. He spotted Laura across the room and watched her independently mingling. He knew now that she would eventually go her own way.

This scene is from the bachelor of fine arts student film *Inside Boxes*, co-written by seniors Paul Lazo and Brad Cryan. Lazo, who is also the director, said that it has been rewarding to see the concept for the film grow into what it is today. Lazo and the film's cast and crew spent the summer bringing the duo's script to life.

"It's come a long way from being this silly little idea involving cardboard," he said. "So it's been fun to see that idea turn into this bigger one. It was like a little baby—now it's in college."

The dramatic comedy centers around Jeff and his girlfriend Laura. The two decide to move in together—a step that Jeff considers similar to marriage. The film follows their relationship as they individually change and ultimately grow apart.

Lazo, a visual and media arts major, said he drew upon personal experience to make the film feel relatable, lifting from his frustrations with work relationships to provide the problematic differences between the characters in the on-screen relationship.

"This whole story is a personal story without necessarily being personal," Lazo said. "I wanted to keep myself out of it, and at the same time, write about my personal struggles with relationships and anxiety."

Last semester, Lazo focused on casting the actors and writing and editing the script via suggestions from his workshop class.

"This whole story is a personal story without necessarily being personal."
-Senior visual and media arts major Paul Lazo

Coming up with the perfect ending was a process for the writing duo, said Lazo. According to Cryan, the pair wrote five different options before Cryan came up with one that felt appropriate and allowed Jeff to have space to grow as a character.

"We realized that Jeff can't be in a functional relationship until he learns how to be with himself," Cryan said. "Though Jeff and Laura break up, I think the ending is actually quite uplifting."

Lazo said that he loves and hates auditions due to the difficulty of choosing the perfect actor. However, he said that when senior Matt Fagerber auditioned for the part of Jeff, he knew Fagerber was meant for the role.

"Right then and there," Lazo said, "I was like, 'This guy is Jeff. You can stretch it out until you find the fit [with an actor], but things just click sometimes, and those are the moments I love in auditions.'"

From there came the rehearsals, meant to work out any kinks before the cast was on set with a time limit.

"I'm the kind of person where I'll have five or six rehearsals before I film in order to feel comfortable when I get on set," Lazo said. "That's where the film really came to life."

Then came summer.

Both Lazo and senior visual and media arts major Michelle Kwong, the director of photography, found that the break was an ideal time to film this project.

"This was our main priority in the summer, whereas in the school year we would have been pulled in different directions with schoolwork and other productions," Kwong said.

But the process was not entirely a breeze. Lazo said he felt thankful for the flexibility of summer due to the setbacks they had that required much rescheduling.



Senior Paul Lazo plans to begin the post-production editing process this semester. Portrait by Jack Adams / Beacon Staff

During the first weekend of filming, Kwong said that their original apartment location, where half of the film takes place, fell through. Luckily, Lazo's friend offered her place, but Kwong said the reorganizing of actors' and crew members' schedules was not easy.

Still, the *Inside Boxes* crew pulled together, and were able to bring Lazo's and Cryan's story to life. All realms of filmmaking came together in the party scene, Kwong's favorite, where Jeff is watching Laura and realizing they will go their separate ways.

According to Kwong, this scene was one of the most challenging cinematically. The camera follows Jeff as though the audience is walking and observing with him, and senior Laura Brincat's produc-

tion design of blues and yellows added to the somber mood. Coupled with Lazo and Cryan's script and the actors' performances, the scene culminates in what Kwong calls the major turning point in the story.

Now that the set has wrapped and summer has come to a close, Kwong said this semester will consist of post-production—adding a soundtrack, color-grading, and listening to criticism from fellow students.

Ultimately, Lazo said that this was a valuable lesson in being honest in a script, without being too on-the-nose.

"It was very cathartic," he said. "I don't think I'll write a movie this personal for a very long time."

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sports

New director looks for big change in first year

Samuel Evers, *Beacon Staff*

After spending the summer reaching out to the campus community, Patricia Nicol said she is optimistic about her inaugural season as athletic director at the Division III level.

"We expect to be better," she said. "The staff, the coaches, we all need to be held accountable in the effort to improve because that's what it is going to take to bring this program to the next level. I think we know how to do it, but no one can do it alone."

Emerson left the Greater Northeast Athletic Conference last year to join the more competitive New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference, or NEWMAC. In its first season, despite a few notable wins, teams struggled to adjust. Nicol said that although increasing the number of wins in the Lion's second season in the NEWMAC would be pivotal, meshing the Emerson athletics department with the rest of the school's culture will be a greater priority.

"The value and contribution a successful athletics program can make to a college sometimes is not understood," Nicol said. "And my objective is to reach out and embrace the college community and build relationships with students outside of the department."

She stressed the importance of holding events through the department as part of this plan, noting how persuasive free food and T-shirts can be to a college student.

Nicol also hopes to bring a concrete identity to Emerson athletics. She called this plan the most unusual challenge she's had in her career.

"Most college athletics have a strong identity," she said. "That's not to say we didn't before, but I want to market our department and change the culture. I want our student athletes to be in the same conversation as other large components of the school."

As part of this effort, the athletic department plans to create and unveil a new logo later this semester, according to Nicol. Over the summer, the department unveiled a new logo, but quickly erased it after numerous complaints that the quality wasn't up to collegiate athletics standards.

Emerson's athletic department had gone nearly two years without a permanent AD, dating back to former AD Kristen Parnell's resignation on May 25, 2012. Stanford Nance, now the senior associate director of athletics, filled the job on an interim basis, and was one of four finalists for the permanent position.

The College's search for a new AD ended in March when the Rhode Island native and University of Rhode Island graduate was brought in. Nicol, who has 24 years experience at the Division I & II levels, spent the last 10 years as AD for Division II Southern Connecticut, where she was a finalist for Division II Athletic Director of the year in 2010.

"She's very collaborative," said Nance. "She has a lot of experience and a lot of ideas. Her effort in getting everyone involved and hearing ideas has been impressive."

Bill Gould, the women's basketball coach, said that while Nicol's resume is impressive, it's her understanding of a small athletic program like Emerson that makes her an ideal fit.

"During the interview process, Nicol talked about being a runner at the University of Rhode Island, and despite being a Division I program, she said that in reality, it was more of a Division III experience," said Gould. "She wasn't on scholarship and she wasn't on chartered planes; she dealt with a lot of the same issues athletes at Emerson deal with."

The end of the drawn-out search, along with Nicol's credentials, have garnered positive reactions from athletes.

Senior Julian Rifkind, one of two athletes that made up the 12-person search committee tasked with finding a new AD,



New Athletic Director Patricia Nicol. Portrait by Jack Adams / Beacon Staff

"She has a lot of experience and a lot of ideas."

— **Former AD, Stanford Nance**

said Nicol's ambition stood out in the hiring process.

"It's obviously good to have experience," said the journalism major, "but she showed the tenacity and willingness to step up and make quick and positive change."

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Next Game

Men

Soccer
Newbury
at
Emerson
9/10
at 6 p.m.

Women

Volleyball
Emerson vs.
Emmanuel
@Brandeis
9/5
at 6 p.m.

Soccer
Gordon
at
Emerson
9/6
at 1 p.m.

Women's soccer builds upon NEWMAC experience

Claire Nobles, *Beacon Staff*

Despite narrowly losing most games last season, the Emerson women's soccer team is looking forward to its next season in its new, tougher conference.

The team went 2-7-1 in its New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference games, but six of those losses were by a margin of two goals or fewer.

"That's one of our main inspirations right now," said player Alyssa Giannone, a junior journalism major. "The losses we had in the NEWMAC were never complete blowouts."

Coach David Suvak, now entering his second year holding the position full-time, said this year's team has the potential to be more competitive.

"We have a little bit more depth than we did last year. Some of those games that were two goal losses will be a one goal loss or potentially a win," Suvak said. "I think the girls on last year's team experienced the NEWMAC for the first time, and gained a very good understanding of what it takes to perform at that level."

Suvak expanded his roster with seven new players in the offseason.

"[The new players] have an ability to impact our team immediately," said Suvak. "The new class, the first year kids, are going to play a significant role in this year's success."

Among the new players are sophomore Elle Wierbicky, a writing, literature, and publishing transfer from Roger Williams University, and junior Cassie Tatmir.

Tatmir, a marketing communication



Junior Alyssa Giannone dribbles past an Emmanuel defender in the season opener. • Jack Adams / Beacon Staff

major, said she was encouraged to join the team by junior Mollie Coyne when the pair studied together at Emerson's Kasteel Well European Center last semester.

"I really missed playing soccer, so I thought I'd give it a shot," Tatmir said. "I feel like I have a pretty solid knowledge of the game that I can help others with."

Suvak said he already sees potential starters in many of the new players.

"They all came into preseason in shape, so they're all fit and they're strong," said Coyne, a marketing com-

munication major. "They know the game very well. They're confident enough to do damage on the field."

Suvak expects returning players Giannone, Coyne, and Tayllar Righini, a communication sciences and disorders major, to make an impact this season as well.

"Tayllar Righini is one of best players on the team," said Suvak of the all-conference junior. "She tends to control our style of play and our possessions."

Suvak said he plans to use Giannone and Coyne in more defensive roles than he did in previous seasons to compen-

"We know who we're playing, and we're more prepared."
— **Midfielder Mollie Coyne**

sate for some players who left during the offseason.

The Lions won't play their first NEWMAC game until Sept. 20, which gives them time to adjust to playing together, and give new players collegiate experience.

"We have no easy opponents on our [non-conference] schedule this year," Suvak said. "That really is for us to be prepared to play in the NEWMAC."

Despite the tough competition in the conference, the team is looking forward to its second season against NEWMAC competitors.

"Last year it was a bit difficult to get into it and understand the new teams," Coyne said. "I think that this year we know what to expect, we know who we're playing, and we're more prepared."

Suvak is optimistic about his young squad, comprised mostly of freshmen and sophomores.

"When the class comes in a year from now, the team will have finally met a fully recruited team by me, so our depth will show," said Suvak. "At the moment, the kids who play for this team will have a lot of success in non-conference games as well as conference games."

The Lions lost their first two games of the season and will face Gordon College on Sept. 6 at Rotch Field.

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FRIDAY

A tale of two fairs



At the new alternative org fair: no SGA recognition, no problem.
Andrew Harwood / Beacon Archive

With the school year officially started, now is the time to decide just how, and with whom, you want to spend your time. This semester, students will have their choice between two different org fairs, happening on the same exact date, at the same time. That should give everyone plenty of options for which clubs and organizations are best for them. The traditional Organization Fair will feature all Student Government Association-recognized clubs, ranging from the Musical Theatre Society of Emerson College to comedy troupe Chocolate Cake City.

But right across campus, the Emerson College Alternative Org Fair will have its debut. Advertising itself as the “punk” version of the school-sanctioned fair, the Alternative Org Fair boasts campus groups that aren’t SGA recognized like ISIS Magazine and the Emerson Lions Spirit Squad. If you plan carefully, there should be time to visit each org. And yes, both will be giving out free swag.

—Jason Madanjian / Beacon Staff

Organization Fair
 ♣ Bobbi Brown & Steven Plofker Gym, 150 Boylston Street, Lower Level 3
 📅 Sept. 5, 1 p.m.

Emerson College Alternative Org Fair
 ♣ Paramount Theatre, Studio 7 (4th Floor)
 📅 Sept. 5, 1 p.m.

SUNDAY

Muggles need not apply



Watch your peers pitch quaffles and solicit snitches.
Anton Bielousov via Wikimedia Commons

Quidditch, the once-fictional sport created by JK Rowling, has long since expanded from, and even disavowed, its literary roots. Today, a thriving community of non-magical humans—including, yes, Emerson students—participate in this game. On Saturday, Quidditch players will answer basic questions about this decidedly ground-based sport, like who is a bludger? Is anyone scoring points out there? And I know this is Emerson, but why is a person running around in a yellow jumpsuit?

The next day, interested participants can try out for one of the college’s half-dozen alliteratively named intramural teams, from the Boylston Berserkers to the South End Slothbears. (Those who can’t make it can send an owl—rather, an email—to the Quidditch commissioner.) Knowledge of Rowling’s trademarked work-that-shall-not-be-named not necessary.

—Ryan Catalani / Beacon Staff

Emerson College Quidditch Fall Combine
 ♣ Boston Common
 📅 Sept. 7, 1p.m.

MONDAY

Money, money, money



You could win quite a bit of change for your piggy bank.
GeorgHH via Wikimedia Commons.

In just fourteen correct questions anyone could become a millionaire. The popular game show, created back in 2002, is holding open auditions on Monday, from 12 to six p.m. at Cure Lounge, located at 246 Tremont Street. It’s on a first-come, first-serve basis, and the only rule is candidates must be at least 18 years old.

When you finally get on the show, choose your lifelines carefully. With the heavy student population in Boston, perhaps this edition should be called Who Wants to Pay Back Their Debt.

—Rebecca Fiore / Beacon Staff

Who Wants To Be A Millionaire (Auditions)
 ♣ Cure Lounge, 246 Tremont Street
 📅 Sept. 8, 12 p.m.

THE REST OF THE WEEK • TUESDAY

Pretentious film fans rejoice!

The Bright Lights Film Series is back in lights, camera, action for the Fall 2014 semester. The first movie, playing at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, is *What is Cinema?* by Academy Award-winning filmmaker Chuck Workman. This documentary takes on one of the most popular majors at Emerson, and questions everything about it. Where has film been in the past decades, and where is it going to go next? Afterward, you can enjoy a discussion with two visual and media arts professors, Kathryn Ramey and Miranda Banks. Get ready to be quiet on the set and learn about the talkies.

—Rebecca Fiore / Beacon Staff

Bright Lights: What is Cinema?
 ♣ Bright Family Screening Room
 📅 Sept. 9



The post-film discussion happens under the screening room’s bright lights.
Courtesy of Laura Jane Brubaker / Beacon Archive

Even more events

View this calendar and submit your events at berkeleybeacon.com/events.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

“Awesome Abs”

Emerson College Fitness Center, 8 a.m.
 This fall, the Fitness Center will offer a plethora of classes to keep you buff and hunky for those long walks from your dorm room to the shower stalls, the most important of which may just be “Awesome Abs.” Six-packs aren’t just for Allston parties anymore. In just 15 minutes, your tummy could become Abercrombie & Fitch worthy. All you need is an Emerson ID and a willing spirit. Other classes this month include yoga, kickboxing, and zumba, all led by Emerson’s highly trained staff of fitness gurus.

—Jason Madanjian / Beacon Staff

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Emerson Dance Company Fall Auditions

Paramount Theatre, 9:30 a.m.
 Can’t sit still in class? Maybe you should take your tapping toes to the Emerson Dance Company auditions. On the third floor of the Paramount Center, tryouts will be held for jazz, tap, contemporary, and hip-hop. There are four mandatory events starting at 9:30 a.m. including registration, introductions,

warm ups, and across the floor. Don’t forget to keep hydrated and put your dancing shoes on, literally. Whether you are a Fred Astaire or Shakira there are tons of styles to choose from.

—Rebecca Fiore / Beacon Staff

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

3 on 3 Intramural Basketball League Kick-off

Bobbi Brown & Steven Plofker Gym 7 p.m.
 Have you met at least one lady? Do you like basketball? More importantly, does she like basketball? You should enter the intramural basketball league! Maybe you can be the next Michael Jordan or Bugs Bunny! The requirements include dribbling, shooting, scoring, and some slam dunks! (And being an Emerson, Berklee, or Mass Art undergrad or grad student and having at least one female on your team.) Games are played Monday and Wednesday nights from seven to nine p.m. and Fridays one to three p.m. The six-week tournament is held in the Bobbi Brown and Steven Plofker Gym.

—Rebecca Fiore / Beacon Staff



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