

Staff Profile

Sandra Gonzalez



At Emerson College, Sandra Gonzalez assists the Communication Studies department chair and handles all office management duties for the department's faculty. But she also has a background in teaching herself, and when she's not at work, she has a passion that's associated more with another academic department at Emerson: she works on independent films.

Gonzalez was born in Mexico to a Mexican father and a Costa Rican mother. She moved to Fairfax County, Virginia, as a child and lived most of her life there, travelling often to see family in Mexico. Her love of literature and storytelling later led her to attend James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, for both her undergraduate and graduate degrees in English literature.

"I was always kind of interested in following my passion rather than just thinking of career stuff," she said.

After college, she taught writing for a few years in Virginia. Then she moved to Boston, where she continued to teach, working largely with students from underprivileged socioeconomic backgrounds. While the work was rewarding, she said that it also was difficult and took an emotional toll. She decided to transition to what she calls the more "behind-the-scenes" part of education, accepting a staff position with Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

While at MIT, she enrolled in a filmmaking certificate program at the Boston University Center for Digital Imaging and Arts, which she completed in 2009. Her master's degree thesis focused on some of the theories behind the film *Like Water for Chocolate*.

After spending four years at MIT, she found out about an opportunity at Emerson and decided to apply because she thought she'd be more at home in the College's creative community. And she's been happy with the change. "It's been really great to learn about the department and to really get to know Emerson...I enjoy helping students get to know our majors...Whatever I can do to facilitate the success of students and faculty is what I try and do."

Though she doesn't have a lot of exposure to film through her job, she does keep connected to the film community when she's not working, whether through her own independent projects or helping friends working on films. She works mostly on narrative films. "The most recent one I worked on for a friend was a comedy and before that was a romantic comedy. I also did the 48-hour film festival recently," she said. In the future, she hopes to connect more with the Emerson film community and would like to spearhead more of her own projects.

She lives in Cambridge with her husband and "the king of their house," their basset hound, Fry.

*By Allison Teixeira, Office of Communications
and Marketing*

Staff Notes

New Faces: August 2012

- Daniel Carr, Office of the Arts
- Ricardo Chilaca, Office of Diversity and Inclusion
- Christopher Connors, Instructional Technologist, ITG
- William Driscoll, Facilities Management
- Matt Fisher, Assistant Director, Disability Services
- Netanel Ganin, Media Services
- Elise Harrison, Director, Counseling Center
- Tatiana Johnson, Administrative Assistant, Journalism
- Katie Krause, Office of the Arts
- Nathan Magnuski, Student Services Advisor, SFS
- Danielle Mastronardi, Residence Hall Director, Residence Life
- Katrenna Rogers, Associate Director, Student Financial Services
- Jamie Santiago, Assistant Director, Financial Aid
- Sylvia Spears, Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion

Mark Your Calendars

2012–2013 Staff Forums

November 1, 2012	2:00–4:00 pm
March 4, 2013	2:00–4:00 pm
May 2, 2013	2:00–4:00 pm

All forums will be held in the Bill Bordy Theater at 216 Tremont Street.



Emerson Community Members Compete in Dragon Boat Festival

Emerson's team of staff, students, and faculty rowed for its third year in June's Dragon Boat Festival on the Charles River. This year's team partnered with the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center to win two medals, placing third in their division. Emerson participants were: Mitchell Elling, Tess Fallon, Eric Fox, Karla Fribley, Meera Kanabar, Takara Larsen, Alexa Lash, Carson Lund, Chris Serwacki, and Adena Smith. If you are interested in joining the team next year, contact Maureen Tripp (maureen_tripp@emerson.edu).

Wear It Everywhere

Send us your photos of Emerson gear—T-shirts, caps, water bottles—in an exotic location (read: not Boston!). We'll feature photos in each issue of the staff newsletter.



Christopher Wright (Admission) enjoys some Emerson-style refreshment in Yosemite National Park.

Pet Photo Quiz

The pets pictured below belong to the Emerson staff members listed. Can you match the pets with their owners? Send your answers to Katie Gibson at katherine_gibson@emerson.edu!



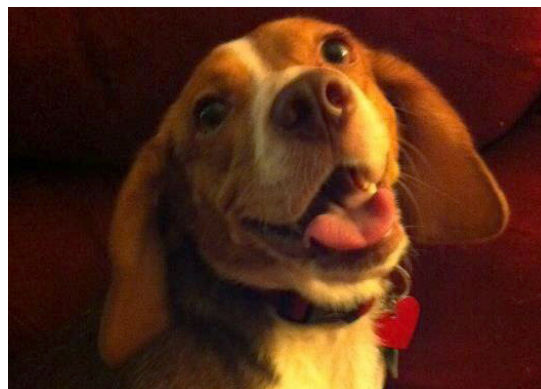
1. Rudy



4. Bunny and Vinnie



2. Andy



5. Ruby



3. Maybelline

- a. Lindsey Athanasiou, Development and Alumni Relations
- b. Cheryl Schaffer, Media Services
- c. Darby Smotherman, Office of the Arts
- d. Tony Ascenso, Tufte Television Studios
- e. Jack Casey, WERS

Lunch Break

Lunch Break is a new column featuring fun restaurants, activities, and sights that are easily accessible on your lunch break from Emerson.

Need a new book to read on your commute? Or are you hankering for a last bit of summer reading as fall inches closer? Either way, head down to Brattle Book Shop at 9 West Street (off Tremont Street near the Common) on your next lunch break. Its extensive stock of used and rare books holds treasures for everyone.

The Brattle's most distinctive feature is its outdoor sale lot, open in fine weather and crammed with books priced at \$5, \$3 and \$1. Browse the carts for a novel or mystery, or indulge your esoteric tastes with sheet music, back issues of literary journals, or stacks of genre fiction. Once you've found a few gems, head inside for even more bookish riches.

Just inside, browse a constantly rotating shelf of advance reader's copies, which afford a sneak peek at upcoming titles. Also on the first floor are fiction, poetry, mystery, history, a large New England section, and a tiny children's alcove toward the back. Head upstairs for sports, drama, travel, and religion; if you're feeling flush, tiptoe up to the third floor to check out the rare book room.

Whatever your reading pleasure, you're sure to find a treasure or two—or simply spend a pleasant hour browsing—at the Brattle Book Shop. Its business hours are 9:00 am–5:30 pm, Monday–Saturday.

By Katie Gibson, Web Services



people@Emerson

Published monthly by
the Office of Communications and
Marketing

Executive Editor
Andy Tiedemann

Editor
Katie Gibson

Designer
Chuck Dunham

Copy Editor
Nancy Howell

Advisory Group
Matthew Bailey
Jill Davidson
Sharon Duffy
Karla Fibley
Keira Lyons
Gloria Noronha-Peschau
Diana Potter
Mia Seidner
Karen St. Clair
Linda Sutherland
Tiffany Tate

**Send news
or suggestions to
Katie Gibson at
Katherine_Gibson@emerson.edu.**

Summer Reading

What great books have you discovered (or rediscovered) this summer? Send your summer reading picks to Katie at katherine_gibson@emerson.edu, and we'll publish a selection in the next newsletter.