



Staff Profile

Seth Grue

When asked to name his favorite aspect of serving as the associate director of residence life at Emerson, Seth Grue didn't hesitate a moment before saying "the students." Clearly, this was an easy question for him to answer.

For the past nine years, Grue has worked closely with students, hiring and training all of the resident assistants (RAs) in Housing and Residence Life. He describes himself as fortunate to be working with such "passionate, dedicated, and focused young people." In addition to his hiring and training duties, Grue manages the programming and learning communities within the residence halls.

Both of Grue's parents are from Somerville; they currently live in New Hampshire, where they raised him. Grue attended Roger Williams University and majored in marine biology. Although he loved the subject and still does, he "couldn't take the solitary nature of research" and ended up turning to residential life as he worked as an RA during his



undergraduate years and enjoyed it. He then attended the University of Texas at Austin to earn his master's in higher education administration and served as a hall coordinator. He worked in the honors halls, which he describes as incredible. After graduating, he worked for the Department of Housing at Georgia Tech.

Grue returned to Boston to be near family. He was excited by the prospect of working at Emerson, a school he had heard excellent things about. Incidentally, he did quite a bit of acting in college—enough that he was only one credit short of minoring in it. So he was particularly drawn to Emerson because of its strong emphasis on the arts.

When not working, Grue can often be found remodeling or making small alterations to his home in Brighton. He attributes this interest to his father,

who is "a fixer." He also enjoys long walks; he once walked the full six miles from his office to his home.

Grue spoke with pride of a former student employee who approached him before graduation and told him that he considered himself a changed person as a result of his RA experience. Grue noted that moments such as this are a wonderful bonus of what he does and confirms its importance. "The interactions with diverse people...the opportunity to help someone get through a difficult time" are additional reasons why he enjoys his job.

Grue has found his niche; indeed, he found it early in life and is aware of how fortunate he's been to pursue it in such vibrant and dedicated student communities. We at Emerson are equally fortunate to have him.

By Emily Goodridge, MA '14

Staff Notes

Awards and Accomplishments

- Sara Brookshire Cummings (Undergraduate Admission) received a master's degree in counseling and psychology from Lesley University in May 2013. She was also elected as an assembly delegate and appointed vice president for NEACAC, the New England Association for College Admission Counseling, in May 2013.

New Faces

- Antonio Chiefe, Director of Business Intelligence, Administration and Finance
- Monette Salud, Budget Analyst, Administration and Finance
- Sarah Teczar, Content Developer, Communications and Marketing

Weddings

- Alex Hough '11 (Alumni Relations) married Sean Ashworth '14 on May 18 in Long Beach Island, New Jersey. They spent their honeymoon in Paris.
- Blaine Butler (Human Resources) married Michael Goff on June 8 at the Artists for Humanity EpiCenter in South Boston.



Alex and Sean
with Brody

Upcoming Events

Announcing a monthly brown bag lunch for Emerson administrative assistants

Maureen Crowley, staff assistant in Emerson Counseling and Psychological Services, invites all staff assistants and administrative assistants to meet for lunch on the first Monday of the month at 12:15 pm on the second floor of the Transportation Building. Attendees will get to know each other and share ideas about making their work more effective and enjoyable. **The next meeting is August 5.**

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion is launching a support group for mothers EmMoms will be a safe space where mothers can gather to share parenting experiences and seek advice on building a healthy balance between work and home life. EmMoms take pride in being mothers, but also being others. (Expectant mothers are welcome!) EmMoms will meet biweekly on Mondays from 12:00 to 1:00 pm. The next meeting is July 1. Email diversity_inclusion@emerson.edu for more information.

Put aside your unwanted media and bring it to the media freecycle event on July 10

Staff are invited to bring in their unwanted books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, and video games for a "freecycle" swap. The event will take place on July 10 in the Multipurpose Room from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Summer Friday Kickball

Join your colleagues for a pick-up kickball game on the Boston Common softball diamond! July 12, 2:00–3:00 pm

Staff News

Emersonians Compete in Boating Contest

The Emerson Lions Dragon Boat Team made its fourth appearance at Boston's Annual Dragon Boat Festival on June 8 and 9. Emerson joined 54 teams from corporations, clubs, and colleges all over New England to compete in the 34th annual traditional Chinese paddling competition.

Dragon boat racing, which features a team paddling a 40-foot-long boat to the beat of its drummer, is one of the fastest growing water sports in North America—and one suited to Emerson. Not only does the 2,000-year-old tradition of dragon boating commemorate the death of a poet (Chinese poet Qu Yuan) but it is known as the “ultimate team sport,” since synchronicity is much more important than strength. A perfectly synchronized team can beat a more conventionally athletic, but less coordinated, team.

This year, Emerson's co-ed team was made up of 17 fun-loving Emerson staff, students, and faculty of different ages, fitness levels, and backgrounds. Although the team did not walk away with a trophy this year, members were happy with their overall performance and are looking forward to next year's event.

The Emerson Lions team was led by Maureen Tripp, team captain and Iwasaki Library media resources coordinator. Participating staff were: Christina Zamon (Iwasaki Library), Mary Ann Cicala and Chris Serwacki (Alumni



The Emerson team

Relations), and Alma Pellecer (Police Department). Faculty on the team were Cindy Miller (Institute) and Kimberly McClarin (Writing, Literature and Publishing). One alumnus and nine students rounded out the team. Several departments provided support: Diversity and Inclusion; Government and Community Relations; Iwasaki Library; Police; and Writing, Literature and Publishing.

Maureen Tripp said, “We accomplished our goal, and I couldn't be prouder of our team. The goal of our team is to create an opportunity for a diverse and inclusive group of Emersonians to join together in a fun activity and represent Emerson College in a respected and loved community event.”

By Jill Davidson, Academic Affairs

Sustainable Emerson

“Sustainable Emerson” is a new section dedicated to sharing news about the College's sustainability efforts as well as tips and resources to help “green” your office environment.

This spring, Emerson was named the 2012–2013 Champion of the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's College and University Green Power Challenge.

Emerson beat its GNAC rivals by using 12 million kilowatt-hours of green power, representing 100 percent of the school's annual electricity usage. The College purchases renewable energy certificates from Community Energy, which helps to reduce the environmental impacts associated with the campus's electricity use.

HR and You

"HR and You" is a new column in people@Emerson that's dedicated to bringing you the latest news and updates from Human Resources. We'd love to know what kind of information you'd like to see included in this section. Please send your suggestions to blaine_butler@emerson.edu.

Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendars!

July 10: Fidelity Individual Counseling Sessions

A registration email will be sent out soon. Slots fill up quickly so don't delay!

HR Inside Scoop

Are you interested in exploring a new career opportunity here at Emerson? Please let us know! Go to emerson.peopleadmin.com to search our job listings. If you see a posting that you are interested in, submit your application online and then send an email to blaine_butler@emerson.edu. Please contact any member of your employment team for more information about the hiring process for internal applicants.

Staff Newsletter Archive

The staff newsletters are now archived on emerson.edu. Find previous issues on HR's site under the "Current Employees" section.

HR Advisory Council

The HR Advisory Council continues to meet and discuss initiatives. We highly encourage all staff members to visit the Council's website at emerson.edu/about-emerson/offices-departments/human-resources/hr-advisory-council to stay up to date on its discussions and to submit feedback or ideas.

PeopleAdmin Update

Your employment team has been working closely with business process consultants at PeopleAdmin and is excited to announce a number changes to the system that will increase functionality and better meet our needs. Training invites will be going out later this summer, and we highly recommend that all staff involved in hiring (department heads, managers, potential search committee members) attend this training. To give you a sneak peek of some of the changes:

- Updated workflows for newly created positions that reflect a more intuitive and streamlined process
- New "comment boxes" so hiring managers, budget office, compensation, and employment can provide additional details to one another within the system
- A new user group called "Associate Vice President" that better reflects our organizational structure
- The ability for search committee members to rate and provide interview feedback within the system for easy access and data management
- No more toggling between "hiring manager" and "search committee"!

HR Spotlight

Performance Evaluations

It's that time of year again! During the month of July, all staff employees will have the opportunity to sit down with their supervisors to discuss their achievements over the past year and to create new goals for FY14. This is a great opportunity to have a formal discussion with your manager about your career development and align your personal career goals with the President's Five Strategic Priorities.

You should have received an email from Human Resources with more information about the Performance Evaluation process and deadlines. If you have any questions, please visit emerson.edu/about-emerson/offices-departments/human-resources/current-employees/performance-evaluations or contact Allegra Sandak, director of staff and organizational development, at allegra_sandak@emerson.edu.

Lunch Break

We polled staff on their favorite places to grab lunch in the area...

"Max and Dylan's has a great lobster mac and cheese and awesome fish sandwiches."

Janel Burns
(Residence Life)

"Chacarero...I love all of the sandwiches—just depends on if I'm craving beef, chicken, or veggie..."

Mary Ann Cicala
(Alumni Relations)

"I like the pad thai dishes at Montien."

Trent Bagley
(Professional Studies)

"At Five Guys, I usually get a bacon cheeseburger and fries"

Michael Merriam
(Undergraduate Admission)

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**Send news or suggestions to
Nancy Howell at
nancy_howell@emerson.edu.**

Tech Spot

Upcoming Workshops

Lunch 'n' Lynda

Bring your lunch and join us for a discussion on getting the most out of *lynda.com*, the online video tutorial library you can access for free as an Emersonian. This self-paced learning tool offers a variety of basic to advanced tutorials in one-minute to half-hour increments. We will navigate the website, answer questions, and raffle off some Emerson prizes!
July 19 @ 12:00 pm in Walker 401
Aug 1 @ 12:00 pm in Walker 417

Advanced Excel Topics

In this hands-on workshop, we will learn how to organize large amounts of data and review commonly used Excel functions and formulas. We will cover the following features: Filtering, Subtotals, Concatenate, Text to Columns, Vlookup, Index and Match, and If Statements.
July 11 @ 12:00 pm in Walker 633

For more information, visit *emerson.edulabs* or follow @EmersonIT.



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