

Staff Profile

Jane Pikor

Those of you who have ever needed a video or live event produced already know Jane Pikor. Jane has been the production manager of Emerson Productions since 2006.

Emerson Productions is one of two service departments—the other being the Emerson Channels—within the wide-reaching Department of Television, Radio, and Film. In addition to managing Emerson Productions, Jane also oversees the Emerson Channels and three of the seven VMA and Journalism production centers that fall under TRF: Tufts PPC Television Studios, Paramount Soundstage, and the Journalism Production Center.

Jane manages an all-student staff at Emerson Productions. She employs a part-time student assistant production manager and a group of about 30 students who work on a project basis and perform all of the technical work of video production: lighting, audio, directing, editing, and cinematography.

Emerson Productions serves the entire campus, as well as off-campus clients.

Recent on-campus projects include numerous videos for the Office of Admission, a virtual tour of WERS-FM, and an in-progress promotional video about the new Los Angeles Center. Jane's team also produces multi-camera live events, such as the College's commencement exercises and the E3 student entrepreneurship expo.

A number of local nonprofits have come to Emerson Productions seeking promotional and instructional videos, including the Friends of the Public Garden, Carroll Center for the Blind, and the St. Anthony Shrine. Occasionally, Emerson alumni contact the department for assistance as well.

Jane is a native New Englander; she grew up on the South Shore and currently lives in Milton with her daughter, who will graduate from the University of Vermont Honors College with a biology degree in May. After graduating from Boston College with a management degree, Jane spent a short time in the corporate world. She decided that she wanted to work in a more creative environment, and that decision led her to WGBH-TV. Jane spent 25 years at WGBH, working her way up from a script typist for



NOVA to management of all technical facilities and productions as director of productions, operations, and engineering.

Jane's work hours are often long and unpredictable, but in her free time, she finds working out at the gym to be a great stress reliever. And, like many Emersonians, she loves film, television, and books.

When asked what she loves about her job, Jane replied that she really enjoys working with her talented fellow TRF staffers and loves working with students. She said, "I enjoy the students' creativity and their willingness to learn about what it means to work in a professional environment. And they are just fun to be around!"

*By Nancy Howell,
Office of Creative Services*

Staff Notes

Awards and Accomplishments

New Faces

Upcoming Events

- On March 12, Emerson staffers presented a workshop at the annual NERCOMP conference in Providence. Robert Fleming (Iwasaki Library), Jenn Stevens (ITG), Cyle Gage (IT), and Cheryl Schaffer (Media Services) led a session titled “Fair Use or Fair Game? How one college ‘solved’ fair use.” The word “solved” was used with heavy irony, and the session discussed the development and use of <http://fairuse.emerson.edu>.
- Erin Jenkins (Academic Advising) will play the role of Lily St. Regis in Spotlight Playhouse’s upcoming production of *Annie*. Performances are April 19–20 and 26–28.

- Jamila Beasley, Police Officer, Police Department
- Loretta Bemis, Associate Vice President, Procurement and Business Operations, Purchasing
- Heather Feland, Director, Corporations and Foundations, Alumni Relations
- Erin Jenkins, Assistant Director, Academic Advising
- Marcy Kenney, Admission Counselor, Undergraduate Admission
- John Richard, Director, Budget and Planning, Administration and Finance
- Katrenna Rogers, Associate Director, Student Financial Services
- Jarad Ziniti, Plumber, Facilities Management

Lunch and Learn

April 17, 2013

Details to come about the Office of Diversity and Inclusion’s next Lunch and Learn!

Final 2012–13 Staff Forum

May 15, 2013 10:00 am–12:00 pm

The forum will be held in the Bill Bordy Theater at 216 Tremont Street.

Staff Forum Recap

On March 19, nearly 75 staff gathered for a two-hour staff forum in the Bill Bordy Theater. The forum featured an update from President Pelton about the College’s strategic plan; a presentation by David Dower, director of artistic programs in the Office of the Arts; and a talk about innovation by alumnus Mark Donovan ‘89.

President Pelton began by giving an update on the College’s progress toward the initiatives he has outlined as part of the five-year strategic plan to move Emerson from excellent to extraordinary.

To foster academic excellence, Pelton’s goal is to establish six faculty-run academic centers at the end of five years. Several centers are already under development. As part of the effort to support innovation, Pelton praised the Engagement Game Lab, run by Eric Gordon, associate professor of visual

and media arts, and said Emerson will invest in this lab, and others like it. The College is in the process of hiring both an assistant vice president of academic affairs for international and global engagement as well as a director of the Elma Lewis Center for Civic Engagement. Also, the College will soon be announcing the beginning of a three-year \$20 million fundraising campaign for the Los Angeles Center that will be followed by a larger comprehensive campaign in 2016.

Pelton followed with a discussion of the role of liberal arts at Emerson and the structure of the schools of the arts and communication.

David Dower, director of artistic programs in the Office of the Arts, gave an update of what is currently onstage at ArtsEmerson and shared a preview of the Fall 2013 season. Staff watched clips from six different upcoming performances.

The forum concluded with a presentation by Emerson alumnus Mark Donovan ‘89. Donovan, who was a television production major, spoke about his experiences with innovation outside the academic environment and finished by presenting seven ways to make innovation flourish at Emerson.

He stressed the distinctions between creativity, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Donovan said Emerson is in a period of transformation and we have the ability to “become a leader in areas where we are not currently leading.” Donovan said that innovation happens with exploration and it takes courage. “We need to allow innovation to happen by removing the things that typically suffocate it.”

By Diana Potter, Office of Development and Alumni Relations

Staff News



Clockwise from top left:
ASB Mississippi,
ASB Texas,
ASB Boston, and
ASB North Carolina

A service-minded group of Emersonians recently participated in the College's 13th annual Alternative Spring Break (ASB). ASB is one of the many programs overseen by the Service Learning and Community Action (SLCA) Office. This year's ASB program took faculty, staff, and students to four different states to help communities with everything from landscaping to tutoring.

Thirteen students traveled to Mississippi with trip advisors Claude Bartholomew (SLCA) and Max Coronel (Res Life). A visit to a rural women's shelter found them landscaping, painting, and constructing furniture. They helped the environment by bagging oyster shells to be used as an artificial reef to

combat coastal erosion. The group also tutored children at the Boys and Girls Club in downtown Biloxi. Coronel said that he was most affected by the people he met during the projects. He said, "They provided me with new insight and perspective of what it is like beyond the Boston bubble. I learned that there is no single face of rural homelessness; it is a complex multifaceted issue."

Jason Meier (Student Life) and Suzanne Hinton (SLCA) accompanied 13 students on a variety of projects in El Paso, Texas. The group's many service activities included volunteering at an after-school youth program, organizing a food pantry at the Salvation Army Family Center, serving meals,

gardening, and helping at a women's shelter. The group also visited a refugee service center to learn about the legal issues of undocumented immigration.

Christine McComb (Athletics) and Matt Fisher (Disability Services) and 12 students assisted the Nantahala Hiking Club with trail maintenance on the Appalachian Trail in North Carolina. The group cut trail sides and fixed abutments into hillsides to slow erosion. They also spent a day helping a domestic abuse nonprofit called R.E.A.C.H. move its offices.

Trip advisor Elizabeth Parfitt (WLP faculty) and her group of six students stayed in Boston to volunteer in the local community. The group tutored and played games with children at 826 Boston and the Boys and Girls Club of Chelsea, and sorted and packed resources for children in need at Cradles to Crayons. Participants also learned more about public policy framework from Chinatown Neighborhood Center and Stand for Children staff. Reflecting on her experience, Parfitt said, "As an educator who engages in these issues on a regular basis, I consider myself fairly well-versed on the nonprofit scene in Boston. But being fully immersed in these experiences for a week takes that education to another level. I think the whole team felt a very real call to action to keep working toward these community goals."

Students who participated in the 2013 ASB trips are planning to hold a showcase event this spring to show the Emerson community what they accomplished, through photos and presentation.

*By Nancy Howell,
Office of Creative Services*

Staff News

Emerson Stage Has Gone to the Dogs

Emerson Stage and the Department of Performing Arts are pleased to announce the theatrical debut of our newest star in the making: Peanut, a one-year-old Beagle mix owned by Writing, Literature and Publishing staff member and MFA student Pamela DeGregorio. Peanut makes her debut in the role of Crab, companion and accomplice to BFA Musical Theatre senior Brock Bivens, who plays Launce in the upcoming Emerson Stage production of the musical *Two Gentlemen of Verona*.

The *Two Gentlemen of Verona* cast spent time with Peanut during a mid-February rehearsal, giving Bivens the opportunity to learn about Peanut's many tricks, which include rolling over and dancing. Rehearsals will help hone Peanut's natural stage presence, preparing her to perform in April. While not performing, Peanut enjoys running in the yard, sleeping, and chewing on things. The life of a performer is full of demands—long rehearsals, adoring audiences, opening night parties, backstage flowers and romances—all in a day's work for a talented pup.

DeGregorio said, "My husband and I are both involved in the Boston fringe theater scene, so we find it both funny and delightful that Peanut will soon be making her own stage debut. She is certainly already a little star in our eyes! We're hoping to train her to be a therapy dog this coming summer, so we thought working with the Emerson community in this way would be a



Brock Bivens '13 with Peanut

great opportunity for her to interact with new people in a very unique setting. We're very proud of Peanut, and she's had a really great experience with the students thus far!"

Peanut will be chronicling her Emerson Stage experience on Facebook at facebook.com/puppeanut and on Twitter at twitter.com/apuppeanut.

Two Gentlemen of Verona is an early '70s musical version of Shakespeare's romantic comedy, with music by the composer of *Hair*. It is a story of love

and betrayal involving best friends who fall in love with the same woman. The friends remain loyal only to their own desires, forsaking their friendship and those closest to them, as they let their passions guide them forward.

Emerson Stage, of the Department of Performing Arts, will produce the musical in the Cutler Majestic Theatre April 18–20. Tickets are available for the Emerson community for \$10 with an Emerson ID at the Cutler Majestic Theatre and Paramount Center box office locations.

*By Tyler L. York,
Office of Performing Arts*

Lunch Break

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

"My favorites are Kaze Shabu Shabu, Tantric, and Pho Pasteur."

Sharon Duffy
(Student Life)

"I like this place called Zo. It's over at Government Plaza and is only open 11:00 am–3:00 pm during the work week. It has the best Greek salad."

Dana Hempel
(Enrollment)

"Café Vanille on Charles Street; it has great eclairs."

Josh Hamlin
(Campus Center)

"My go-to lunch from Boloco consists of a Caesar wrap and mango smoothie."

Deb Falzoi
(Web Services)

people@Emerson

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Tech Spot

Want to learn some new software?
Check out these upcoming workshops.

4/03
Intro to Adobe Photoshop
2:00–2:50 pm
Walker Building, 634

4/05
Intro to Adobe InDesign
11:00–11:50 am
Walker Building, 633

About the Workshops

No registration is required, but you will need to know your ECnet username and password to participate. These events are sponsored by Lab Operations with the IT Help Desk and are not open to the public. For more information, contact robin_chace@emerson.edu.



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