

Staff Profile

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Cate Hirschbiel

If you've attended an event at the Iwasaki Library over the past few years, Cate Hirschbiel was probably the person behind its execution.

As the library's outreach coordinator, Hirschbiel plans and oversees a number of events each semester. She coordinates the library's bigger outreach events during Orientation and finals (such as last semester's popular Cirque du De-Stress with visiting therapy dogs) and also

plans special events, such as faculty book celebrations in the President's Room.

In addition, she handles the booking of the CoLab, the new space that previously housed the *Will & Grace* set. The library has a good relationship with student literary magazines, which often use the library spaces for launch parties. On average, the library hosts at least one event every two weeks.



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Staff Profile cont.

Hirschbiel is also a member of the reference librarian team, staffing the reference desk and teaching library workshops to students. Every spring, the instruction team teaches more than 60 classes for courses including WR 121, PA 101, and MK 220.

She is also one of the administrators of the library's Facebook and Twitter accounts and designs posters for library events. She conducts an opinion survey of students and faculty in alternating years about library services and collections.

Hirschbiel started as a part-time reference librarian in 2011 and was offered a full-time position in 2012. She cited her colleagues' openness to collaboration and support of new ideas as reasons why she enjoys working at Emerson. Her favorite

work projects have been Orientation sessions and the therapy dog event during finals week.

A native of Wilmington, Delaware, Hirschbiel received undergraduate degrees in Massachusetts: an AA from Simon's Rock College and a BA in medieval studies from Smith College. She has a Master of Library Science from Indiana University Bloomington.

She started her career in the Boston area in 2007 as an evening reference librarian at Fisher College. She also worked at the Cambridge Public Library before taking a 3/4 position at Lesley University, where she worked at the main library and the art library. She started at Emerson while employed at Lesley. Both Emerson and Lesley are part of the Fenway Libraries Online (FLO) system, an organization of 10 Boston-area schools that share resources.

Staff members can walk into any of the 10 libraries and take out books upon showing their Emerson ID.

Hirschbiel lives in Medford, Massachusetts, with her boyfriend and two friends. In her spare time, she enjoys playing board games and tabletop role-playing games such as *Pathfinder* and *D&D*. She also studies Aikido, a noncompetitive martial art.

A new event at the library this semester that Hirschbiel would like to invite staff to is a monthly open mic night, the Loud Section. Staff are welcome to participate and attend! The next event takes place on March 19; check the Emerson Events Calendar and Next Week@Emerson for details.

Staff Profile cont.

Iwasaki Library Information Services Profile

How many people work in your department?

There are seven librarians on the Information Services team.

Where is your department located?

Iwasaki Library, across from the CoLab, 3rd floor of Walker

What are your department's major functions?

Providing reference and instruction services to all users as well as purchasing and maintaining the physical and electronic collections.

What population does your department work with?

Everyone at Emerson!

Has your department recently accomplished a goal or does it have one in the works that may be of interest to the community?

We're gearing up for our next Therapy Dog event on April 24 as part of the Cirque du De-stress. Last semester's event was very successful with more than 200 students attending.

Staff Notes

Announcements

- Christina Zamon (Archives and Record Management) has been selected as a participant in the 2015 Archives Leadership Institute. Zamon and 24 other archival leaders will engage in advanced training during a weeklong immersion program in August at Luther College in Iowa.
- Liliana Ballesteros (Creative Services) has three winning entries in the 2015 New England Book Show's Student Design Competition. She won in the categories of cover design, eBook design, and interior page design.
- Noah Daniel Wood (Admission) has [released a single](#) from his upcoming album, *Illuminating Company*. This will be his fourth release following 2013's *Blue Notes*.

New Faces

- Kelly Arnold, Director of Marketing, Enrollment Management
- Miranda Craigwell, Marketing Communications Fellow, ArtsEmerson
- Alexis Goode, Financial Aid Counselor, Student Financial Services
- Angela Grant, Associate Director, Financial Aid, Student Financial Services
- Wai On Kwong, Database System Administrator, IT
- Erik Muurisepp, Associate Dean of Students, OHRL
- Kristen Nicholas, Business Manager, Facilities Management
- Gabrielle Tassone, Assistant Residence Hall Director, OHRL

Upcoming Staff Forums

March 11
2:00–4:00 pm

June 3
2:00–4:00 pm

Staff Notes cont.

New Faces Spotlight

Kelly Arnold has joined the Enrollment Management Office as the director of marketing.

Her main responsibility is to create strategic communications and messaging that convey the Emerson story to prospective students and inspire them to apply and enroll here. She will help oversee the production of print publications, direct mail, photography and videos, and event materials. She will also be responsible for streamlining digital communications, including email campaigns and the Admission website.

Arnold will work closely with undergraduate and graduate academic departments to ensure that admission materials accurately reflect their program

offerings. She and her team also work closely with the offices of Financial Aid, Student Success, Communications and Marketing, and many others in coordinating communications efforts across the College.

Not surprisingly, Arnold is already enjoying the strong sense of community that Emerson provides. Being a native of Lakeville, Massachusetts, she was always familiar with Emerson and became interested in working here after hearing great things about it from friends who had attended school here over the years; her brother-in-law is an alumnus, too.

Arnold worked at NYU for eight years. Her most recent role there was senior assistant director of marketing communications for undergraduate admissions. While working at NYU, she also completed its MBA program. She received a bachelor's degree in English from Providence College.



She and her husband, Mike, and dog, Sammy, recently moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts. In her spare time, she enjoys reading fiction, singing, trying new restaurants, and traveling—most recently to Glacier National Park in Montana. She is looking forward to getting reacquainted with New England and especially Vermont, where she and her husband have a house near Mount Snow.

Staff News

Staff Find Community in Emerson Resource Groups

Two new Emerson Resource Groups (ERGs) have recently been created under the auspices of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and Human Resources. While both ERGs focus on specific demographic groups, they are open to all faculty and staff members. The new group for staff and faculty of color is named Fusion. The other new group for LGBTQ staff and faculty is named eQual.

The ERGs' purpose is to provide their members and allies opportunities for networking for educational and social purposes, to advocate on issues that will advance Emerson's goals and mission, and to increase outside awareness of Emerson as an employer committed to recruiting,

hiring, and retaining a diverse workforce. Sometimes called networking groups, resource groups have been integral to for-profit organizations for many years. In the last five years, colleges and universities have been initiating them as the groups' benefits to both employers and staff have been increasingly researched and publicized. Resource groups typically hold regular meetings, social events, professional development programs, and act as liaisons to community groups and organizations.

Jo Craig (Development and Alumni Relations), a founding member and leader of Fusion, stated, "Fusion is important to me because it is specifically created to support staff and faculty who self-identify as people of color. We have issues specific to being in the minority and we can share these experiences and empower each other

to seek solutions to problems, to share cultures, and to provide a forum for discussion for anyone at Emerson." Sixteen staff and faculty attended Fusion's first organizing and networking lunch on February 19.

Chris Daly (Student Success) said that she views eQual as "a great way to interact with staff and faculty I might otherwise never get to meet around issues of shared identity and importance, including creating a supportive and safe environment for all Emersonians. It's also a great way for the institution to show support of its diverse populations."

These new groups join EmCares, an active ERG whose mission is to provide ongoing space for discussion and questions that are

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shared among staff and faculty caregivers in an open and safe environment. According to EmCares facilitator Alayne Fiore (Diversity and Inclusion), members discuss caregiving issues revolving around children and elderly parents. They identify common concerns and work with Human Resources to discuss how the College can best support employees who are caregivers and how they in turn can best support the College. "We meet the third Monday of every month in Walker 1020 during lunch hour, although we do change up the meetings because some people have standing meetings," said Fiore.

Originally started in June 2013 as EmMoms, a group of mothers who provided mutual support in an effort to achieve a work-life balance, members quickly agreed that the

group needed to be more inclusive to accommodate the diversity of caregivers and those whom they support. A year later, EmCares was formed. Fiore, Christina Zamon (Archives and Record Management), Elena O'Malley (Iwasaki Library), and Sharon Duffy (Student Life) are some of the group's founding members.

"I started attending because I wanted to meet other parents at Emerson and share perspectives, and having a group that met at lunchtime at work fit quite conveniently into my schedule," said O'Malley. "I also wanted to ask that it be as inclusive as possible from the outset—that this group wouldn't be, or wouldn't be perceived as, excluding caregivers other than mothers. I appreciate this group's focus—and Alayne deserves credit for keeping that focus—on making a positive contribution to the Emerson community. We celebrate; we

commiserate; we exchange advice; we share stories. It's nice to meet folks from other departments and get to know them a bit."

Duffy agreed. She started attending to help get the group off the ground and to meet others who share common parenting and life experiences. "It has been wonderful to meet and learn from others from across campus, and it has been an amazing opportunity to hear stories and share the wide range of concerns of caretakers. As a parent of two older children, it was very rewarding to help ease the concerns of parents-to-be. It was also so exciting to welcome the births and to meet the kiddos at the holiday party after hearing so much about them in the meetings!"

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EmCares' first organized event was the "Bring Your Loved Ones to Emerson Day" last summer. Eight Emerson parents and 11 children aged 2–13 participated in activities such as an open gym hosted by Athletics, story time at the Iwasaki Library, and arts and crafts with JumpStart. The story time session was organized by Esther Roth-Katz, Karla Fribley, and Maureen Tripp (Iwasaki Library). Youths also worked with Performing Arts students. Emerson Police brought in Massachusetts state police officers to create AMBER Alert Identi-kits and provided families with finger-printing/ DNA swab kits.

Zamon reflected on her EmCares experience: "We are all working to support our families in some way, and it is an outlet to share stories, ideas, and ways to make life a little less stressful. We have been able to support each other by voicing our concerns to HR and the College on the needs of employees trying to support families. We have supported each other through tough times and helped people new to the group find answers to questions."

This past fall, EmCares worked with HR to address questions and suggestions that surfaced during the monthly meetings, including a discussion about making the policies in the Employee Handbook more transparent and inclusive. When asked

what the group hopes to accomplish in the next year, Fiore mentioned continuous programming and increased faculty attendance.

For more information about EmCares and to be added to the EmCares' email list, contact Alayne Fiore at alayne_fiore@emerson.edu or 617-824-8923. For more information about the two new ERGs, contact the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at diversity_inclusion@emerson.edu.

By Mengfong Tan (IT) and Robert Amelio (Diversity and Inclusion)

Sustainable Emerson

News and Events

RecycleMania

Take the online recycling pledge at emerson.edu/about-emerson/sustainability-emerson/recycling/pledge. You will be entered into a weekly raffle and a grand-prize raffle!

Save the Dates

Archives and Record Management and Sustainability are co-hosting another Clean out Your Office event in the Bill Bordy Theater during Recyclemania. Please bring confidential documents to be shredded and any office items you no longer want to the Bordy on March 12, 11:00 am–4:00 pm, and March 13, 10:00 am–3:00 pm.

All staff and faculty are invited to the Emerson Green Gala on April 2 at the Paramount Mainstage. The event, which strives to bring awareness of Earth Day on April 22, starts at 6:15 pm with a reception. President Pelton will kick off the event, which will feature a performance piece by

more than 13 student organizations as well as videos and information booths with suggestions of how to appreciate Earth Day by creating a better and healthier planet. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the Paramount Box Office.

2015 Senior Class Gift

This year, seniors are leaving their legacy by designating the 2015 Senior Class Gift to support the Emerson College Green Fund. In doing this, the Class of 2015 is providing Emerson with a resource to continue striving toward becoming a more sustainable and environmentally responsible campus.

Through the Senior Class Gift, seniors acknowledge Emerson's influence and show appreciation for all of the opportunities it has provided. Moreover, the Senior Class Gift is a chance for graduating classes to leave their mark at Emerson and create an impact that will last for years to come.

Tech Spot

Upcoming Workshops

March 13, 12:00–1:00 pm
Learn with Lynda.com

March 20, 2:00–3:00 pm
Intro to Social Media Management Tools

March 26, 2:00–3:00 pm
Canvas and You

April 10, 2:00–3:00 pm
Simple SQL Queries

RSVP for workshops [here](#).

And did you miss our workshops on working from anywhere? Visit it.emerson.edu/workanywhere to learn how to connect to Emerson's network from off campus and access Banner, Cabinet, and your Emerson email from any computer.

Upcoming Events

March 5–15

Times vary

Tristan & Yseult

ArtsEmerson Production

March 5

7:00 pm

Brûle la mer (Burn the Sea)

Bright Lights Series

March 6–8

Times vary

Love's Labour's Lost

ArtsEmerson Screening

March 11–29

Times vary

Keep Culture and Clash on

ArtsEmerson Production

March 17

7:00 pm

Who Is Vermin Supreme?

Bright Lights Series

March 19–22

Times vary

NewFest 2015

Emerson Stage Production

March 19

4:00 pm

Roxane Gay Q & A and Reading

WLP Reading Series

March 19

7:00 pm

The Loud Section: Open Mic

Sponsored by the Iwasaki Library

March 26

7:00 pm

Rocks in My Pockets

Bright Lights Series

people@Emerson

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