

Staff Profile

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Blaine Butler

Any staff who were hired between Fall 2011 and Spring 2015 were most likely hired by Blaine Butler, who was the employment manager in HR.

Since April, however, he has started building relationships with potential employers for Emerson students and alumni. His new role at the College is associate director of employer relations in Career Services.

His main responsibility is to foster partnerships with companies and organizations so that students and alumni have a network of employers that are actively engaged with the College. He develops and maintains relationships with employers nationwide, but focuses on Boston, New York City, and Los Angeles, since many alumni gravitate to those cities.



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Staff Profile cont.

eHire is the College's central database for job and internship postings. Last year, roughly 2,500 opportunities were posted in the system. One of Butler's primary objectives is to develop eHire into more of a curated job database so that the opportunities posted are more tailored to the needs of the Emerson community. Butler also conducts site visits with recruiters and hiring managers, and invites representatives to visit campus to host information sessions, sit on panels, conduct on-campus interviews, and attend the biannual internship fair.

Butler is planning to strengthen relationships with faculty and has already met with the department chairs. Through collaborating with faculty on different programs and utilizing their industry connections, he hopes to increase students' engagement with Career Services.

Overall, he has found his transition to Career Services to be pretty seamless because of his pre-existing relationships with so many staff across campus. He said that his favorite thing about working at Emerson is the people. "So many people are passionate about Emerson's mission," he said. "I am thrilled that the next step in my career has allowed me to continue to be a part of this community."

Up until this point in his career, Butler has worked in human resources, focusing on recruiting and hiring. After graduating with a BA in sociology from the University of New Hampshire, he moved to Washington, DC. He worked as a corporate recruiter for government consulting firms and was a staffing manager at Robert Half International.

After five years of living in DC, he and his husband, Michael, decided to head north and settle in Boston so that he could be

closer to family and friends, as he is originally from Stowe, Vermont, and Keene, New Hampshire. They currently live in South Boston with their pug, Sweet Pea, and are celebrating their second wedding anniversary this year.

One of Butler's favorite hobbies is contributing to a cocktail blog he runs with his husband and brother-in-law. The blog, called [Dumb Bartender](#), is a compilation of both their favorite drinks as well as unique recipes they've created over the years. They like sharing this hobby with family and friends, and enjoy being resident bartenders for friends' events.

Butler also enjoys skiing in the winter and traveling the globe. He is looking forward to spending many weekends in New Hampshire with family at his parents' lake house this summer.

Staff Profile cont.

Career Services Profile

How many people work in your department?

Eight staff, one grad assistant, and six student workers

Where is your department located?

216 Tremont Street, Sixth Floor

What are your department's major functions?

Serving undergraduates, graduate students, and alumni, Career Services provides a number of resources and services, including: individual career counseling, internship guidance, opportunities to connect with employers, and assistance with the development and implementation of job search strategies.

What population does your department work with?

Students, alumni, faculty, staff, and employers

Do you have an interesting factoid or statistic about your department to share?

In 2014–2015, more than 1,800 appointments were made and about 3,600 students attended the department's events and workshops.

Staff Notes

New Faces

- Dmitry Albert, Systems Administrator, Office of Information Technology
- Eric Asetta, Executive Director, Office of Research and Creative Scholarship
- Mikhail Gershovich, Director, Academic Planning/Digital Learning, Emerson Los Angeles
- Steven Giacoppo, Detective, Police Department
- Robert Murphy, Assistant Manager, Journalism Production Center, TRF
- Frederick Ryan, Assistant Director, Leadership Giving, DAR
- Samantha Stringfellow, Customer Support Specialist, Computer Lab Operations
- Shannon Vacek, Department Assistant, Registrar
- Jacob Youmell, Associate Director, Digital Marketing, Office of Enrollment Management

Announcements

- Congratulations to Ron Ludman (Dean of Students), Jason Meier (Student Activities), and Nancy Howell (Creative Services) for being honored at the 2015 Emerson Recognition and Achievement Awards. Ludman received the ERA Award of Distinction; Meier received the award for Advisor of the Year; and Howell received the Sustainability Advancement Award.
- Congratulations to the following staff who graduated from Emerson in May or will graduate in August: Tony Ascenso (TRF), Nicole Leete Barrell (Web Services), and Mary Yaeger (DAR).
- Marissa Shallcross (Career Services) and her husband, Derrick, welcomed son Ronan on December 3, 2014.
- Emerson Employee Resource Group eQual will have a contingent marching in the Boston Pride Parade on Saturday, June 13. All Emersonians are invited to march. Contact eQual co-chairs [Anna Feder](#) (VMA) and [Eric Glaskin](#) (Student Financial Services) for more information.

Upcoming Staff Forum

June 3
2:00–4:00 pm

Staff Notes cont.

New Faces Spotlight

Another alumnus has joined the ranks of staff! Bob Murphy '84 is the new assistant manager of the Journalism Production Center (JPC). He is responsible for ensuring that all of the equipment in the JPC's control room, studio, newsroom, and editing suites are working for both the students gaining practice with the tools and the faculty teaching classes in the facilities. The equipment includes approximately 30 computers with video editing capabilities, studio cameras, and televisions.

Murphy received a BS in television production from Emerson. But as he explained it, due to faculty member Marsha Della-Giustina's support, he was able to do directed studies to obtain video production skills in a journalism environment.

After graduation, Murphy, along with a few classmates, headed to Greenville, North Carolina, for a photographer job at WNCT. Two years later, he moved to

WSET in Lynchburg, Virginia. Finally, after a couple of years at that station, he moved to Rhode Island when he was offered a photographer job at WLNE in Providence.

Murphy spent 27 years at WLNE, leaving as the station's chief photographer. After working at news stations for three decades, he decided, "I wanted to be indoors. Thirty-one years out in the streets was enough."

Like many alumni, Murphy was happy to come home to work for his alma mater. He said there is "no comparison" between the Emerson campus he knew and the Emerson campus today. He is thrilled to be working with top-notch equipment in the JPC and to be helping students develop their technical skills.

Outside of the office, Murphy has spent many years coaching students of a slightly younger age: members of a robotics team that is part of the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology)



program. Students worldwide compete annually in three separate levels of robotics design. The program's goal is to inspire students to study science and technology.

Murphy knows firsthand that this program works, as his son, Patrick, is studying robotics engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He and his wife, Shelly (who happens to be a graduate of one of Emerson's graduate programs), live in Lincoln, Rhode Island.

Staff News

Administrative Collaborative Is Established

Admins: the people we ask when something needs to get done. These are the adventures of the Administrative Collaborative. Our long-term mission: foster a community of individuals to support administrative work, provide resources to those who fulfill those duties across departments, to boldly go where no admins have gone before...

On April 22, the newly established Administrative Collaborative hosted a kickoff event to celebrate Administrative Professionals Day in the Iwasaki Library's CoLab. Administrators, staff, students, and faculty were invited to a pizza party to

celebrate the official launch of the Administrative Collaborative while enjoying the unique opportunity to socialize in a relaxed setting.

Participants gave input as to what programs and resources they'd like to see at Emerson in the future, expressed their thanks to admins across the College, and shared their favorite office supplies. The event was planned by the Administrative Collaborative Steering Committee (comprised of Mindy Hinkel [Performing Arts], Mary Beth Pessia [Administration and Finance], Margaret Melanson [President's Office], Shaylin Hogan [WLP], and Jordan Clare Wilson Pelton [HR], with new additions Geraldine McGowan [Facilities], Paula Mangiaratti [Student Life], and Georgia Moridi [Business Services]).

Borne of requests and questions raised during the August Staff Lunch, the Administrative Collaborative seeks to foster a community of individuals to support administrative work and provide resources to those who fulfill those duties across departments at Emerson, particularly to those new to the Emerson College community. All Emerson community members are welcome to be a part of this group.

This fun event and the productive conversations stemming from it are guiding the future plans of the Administrative Collaborative. If you have ideas and requests to share, please send them to any member of the Steering Committee.

By Shaylin Hogan, Writing, Literature and Publishing

Steering Committee members (from left): Paula Mangiaratti, Shaylin Hogan, Mindy Hinkel, Margaret Melanson, Alexa Jackson, Mary Beth Pessia, Jordan Clare Wilson Pelton. Missing: Geraldine McGowan and Georgia Moridi



Staff News cont.

Wellness at Emerson

Wellness at Emerson is the College's new wellness initiative, sponsored by HR. Detailed below are current programs through June 2015. All staff, faculty, and temporary employees are welcome to attend these programs. Contact Tricia Kennedy in Human Resources (tricia_kennedy@emerson.edu or 617-824-8124) with any questions.

Emerson Walks Wednesdays and Fridays, 12:00 pm



Emerson Walks is a fun opportunity to join your colleagues for a 45-minute walk on Wednesdays and Fridays during the spring, summer, and fall. The alternating routes for each walk are sent to interested walkers prior to each session and include walks along the Charles River, Commonwealth Avenue, Faneuil Hall, the

Public Garden, and Beacon Hill. The group meets inside the Little Building lobby at 12:00 pm. Please contact Tricia Kennedy if you wish to be added to the Emerson Walks mailing list.

Weight Watchers Tuesdays, 12:00 pm



Emerson hosts a chapter of Weight Watchers on Tuesdays at 12:00 pm. The cost of participating in the program is \$156 for the summer session, which began on May 12. Late entrants are welcome at a prorated cost. Participation in this program is eligible for a \$150 reimbursement for participants under Emerson's medical plan (one time per year). Meetings take place in the Large Training Room in the Office of Human Resources, 8 Park Plaza. Please contact Tricia Kennedy if you are interested in joining.

Walk in the Woods Friday, June 12, 2:00 pm



On Friday, June 12, Emerson Walks will host a walk at Garden in the Woods in Framingham. Transportation will be provided on a first-come basis to this event to view the spring flora at this popular walking site. Join us for a late box lunch at 2:00 pm (provided) on the bus. The duration of this trip is estimated at three to four hours and transportation will return to the College at the end of the day. To register, please contact Tricia Kennedy.

By Tricia Kennedy, Human Resources

Staff News cont.

"Cirque de De-Stress" Team Wins Spirit of Emerson Award

The "Cirque de De-Stress" event, known for bringing therapy dogs to campus to soothe stressed students at exam time, has won the second annual Spirit of Emerson Award. The winning team comprises staff members Patricia Challan (Counseling and Psychological Services), Cate Hirschbiel (Iwasaki Library), and Diane Paxton (Disability Services). Faculty member Eiki Satake, who chairs the Spirit of Emerson Committee, said, "In my opinion, they made a significant contribution to the College spiritually in such a unique manner."

The Spirit of Emerson Awards are given annually to Emerson community members who increase the radiance, reputation, accomplishments, and overall positive spirit of Emerson College in keeping with the

College's legacy and President Lee Pelton's five objectives. The award recipients are chosen after receiving nominations from the Emerson community and being voted upon by the Spirit of Emerson Committee, which is composed of previous winners, as well as students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

Out of 43 applications submitted, the Cirque de De-Stress creators won the group Spirit of Emerson Award. Performing Arts major Nyla Wissa '15 won the individual award for founding Flawless Brown, the first women of color theater troupe at Emerson College that began in the Spring 2014 semester.

Initially funded by prize money from the Emerson UnCommon award, the Cirque provided therapy dogs, food, arts and crafts, meditation, yoga, and writing support to students at the end of the fall semester. For the second Cirque event, held at the end of the spring semester, Challan,



Tyler McAndrew '16

From left: Diane Paxton, Patricia Challan, Cate Hirschbiel

Hirschbiel, and Paxton responded to student feedback by adding more dogs, a guinea pig, chair massages, and a circus-themed photo booth.

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Staff News cont.

Paxton said, “The Cirque embodied the very definition of school spirit—students participated enthusiastically and were tweeting, Facebooking, and messaging their friends urgently: ‘Come quickly, Emerson has therapy dogs!’”

This year’s Cirque events were the result of three years of effort and collaborative planning for those who initiated, advocated for, and administered the program. More than a dozen students volunteered for each event, offering another interactive way for students to

participate and de-stress. The Cirque de De-Stress took place in the Iwasaki Library and received support from the Library, Student Life, the Center for Health and Wellness, ECAPS, the Disability Services Office, the Lacerte Family Writing and Academic Resource Center, and the Office of Student Success.

By Jill Davidson, Academic Affairs

Tech Spot

Are You on Slack?

Did you know that Emerson has a messaging app that allows you to chat with individuals or in group chat rooms? Slack is a simple-to-use app that is available to everyone on campus.

Collaborate with people you don’t sit near, work on cross-departmental projects, or just ask a question!

Jump in and learn more about how to customize it for you and your department: <https://it.emerson.edu/page/using-slack/>.

Sustainable Emerson

News

First Annual Green Gala a Success

On April 2, the Emerson community celebrated Earth Day a few weeks early at the Green Gala in the Paramount Center.

Students Jade Zaroff '17, Olivia Rubbo '17, and Alex Smith '17 planned the event with the help of advisor Eric Van Vlandren (Sustainability). Admission was \$5, with all proceeds going toward the Emerson Green Fund.

During the pre-show reception, attendees visited information booths to learn more about green living and helped themselves to a buffet of vegetarian food.

The main event of the evening was a performance in which more than 13 student organizations

participated. The event was such a success that it will be an annual event; save the date for the second annual Green Gala on April 22, 2016.

Emerson Wins 2014–2015 EPA Green Power Challenge

Emerson is yet again the champion of the Environmental Protection Agency's [Green Power Challenge](#) among its NEWMAC conference peers. The College used 15 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of green power in 2014–2015, accounting for 100 percent of its annual electricity usage.

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