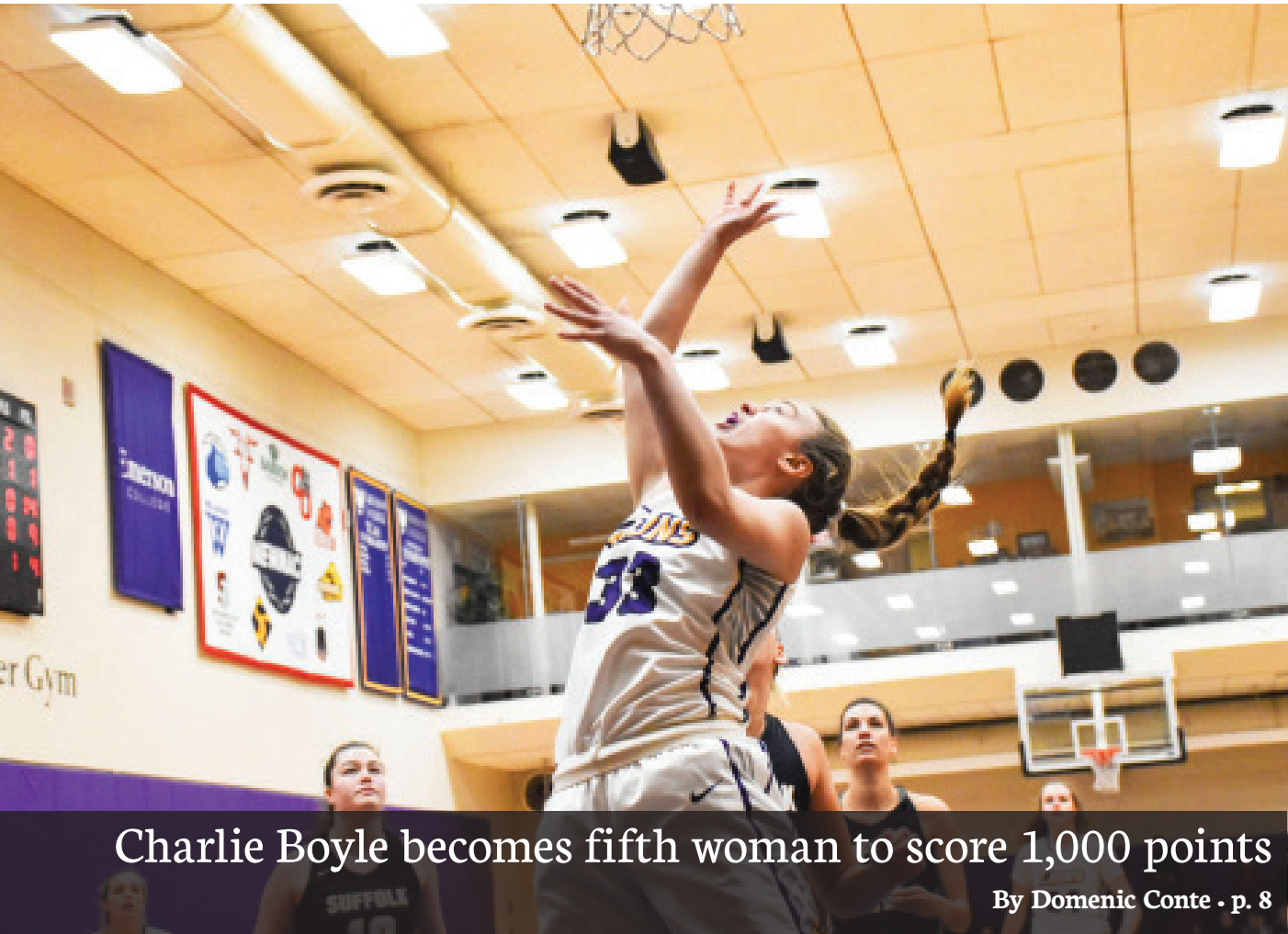




The Berkeley Beacon

Emerson College's student newspaper since 1947 • berkeleybeacon.com

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Charlie Boyle becomes fifth woman to score 1,000 points
By Domenic Conte • p. 8

Charlie Boyle (center) scored her 1,000th point in a game against Mount Holyoke on Jan. 12. • Anissa Gardizy / Beacon Staff

Pelton supported Boston's effort to attract Amazon's second headquarters

Chris Van Buskirk, *Beacon Staff*

President M. Lee Pelton offered support for the City of Boston's bid for Amazon's second North American headquarters, according to public records released to the Beacon on Jan. 8.

The Emerson College president authored a letter in October 2017 detailing the college's support for Boston's bid to bring Amazon's second headquarters to the city. Pelton was also invited by the City of Boston to attend a dinner in early March 2018 for local public officials and leaders in business and education to mingle with Amazon representatives.

Pelton's letter is one of 15 written by presidents and vice presidents of notable institutions such as Harvard University, Boston University, and Boston College. The notes were addressed to Amazon's Chief Executive Officer Jeff Bezos and demonstrate the extent to which colleges and universities across the Boston area went to persuade Amazon to bring the second headquarters to the city.

"I write to support the City of Boston's application to become the next location for Amazon's headquarters," Pelton wrote in the letter.

See Pelton, page 2

Basche '90 film cracks motherhood stereotypes

Cassandra Coyer, *Beacon Staff*

Thirty years after graduating from Emerson, and after starring in *Sex and the City 2*, *Lipstick Jungle*, and *The Exes*, David Alan Basche '90 decided to give back to the college when it was time to produce his first feature movie, *Egg*.

The satirical film, in which Basche produced and starred, was released in select theaters across the country on Jan. 18. The film, following old college friends reconvening for dinner, addresses the complications and challenges of motherhood. The two women in the film are soon-to-be mothers, yet both handle this differently.

"I've been working in film and television for a long time, and I know how many production assistants and interns are needed," Basche said in a phone interview. "I figured since this time I was the boss, I could decide to whom to give that opportunity."

Marketing Communications Specialist Anders Croft works at the Career Development Center and often shares opportunities and events with students. During the summer of 2017, Basche contacted Croft's office to ask for Emerson students to work on the film as a way to give back to his former college.

See Egg, page 7

College seeks healthier option after Griddler's closure



The college bought 134-136 Boylston St., the building that housed Griddler's, on May 28, 2018 for \$7 million. • Anissa Gardizy / Beacon Staff

Anissa Gardizy, *Beacon Staff*

The college contacted various retail brokers to help find another eatery to fill the space Griddler's Burgers & Dogs formerly occupied at 134 Boylston St., according to a college official.

Senior Associate Vice President for Real Estate Arthur Mombourquette said he hopes the college can attract a restaurant with a healthier menu after Griddler's closed at the beginning of January. The college told the potential brokers to look for a new vendor that would accept ECCash, Mombourquette said.

"I don't think [Griddler's] offered anything

special or unique. Our goal would be to offer something that is different than what you can get elsewhere," Mombourquette said in an interview. "Maybe something that [instead of] competing with the Dining Center, compliments it and offers something different"

Freshman Charlie McKenna said he never returned to Griddler's after his first visit in fall 2018.

"The food was fine—it's pretty hard to mess up a burger. It was just a little expensive for what you got," McKenna said. "At one point, I was wanting to get a burger, but the thought of going back to Griddler's did not cross my mind."

A cheeseburger, fries, and medium drink

combo at Griddler's costs about \$11. The same meal would cost about \$11 at MOOYAH Burgers, Fries and Shakes and about \$15 at Five Guys—both restaurants are less than half a mile away from the college. The meal would also cost about \$11 at Emerson's Max Cafe.

Griddler's was a part of the Boston Nightlife Ventures group, a company that manages restaurants and bars in the Boston area. Chief Executive Officer of the company Euz Azevedo told Eater Boston, a local food and dining site, that the company plans to focus on their larger restaurants and does not plan to reopen another burger place like Griddler's.

See Griddler's, page 2

news

SGA reworks organization recognition process

Diana Bravo, *Beacon Staff*

The Student Government Association voted to approve changing the student organization recognition process after discussing a proposal written by Student Engagement and Leadership Director Jason Meier on Jan. 22.

There are now two levels of recognition for student organizations: affiliated and SGA-funded. Affiliated organizations are approved by a panel including two SEAL employees and two SGA officials, and SGA-funded organizations are affiliated organizations funded at the discretion of the SGA treasury.

The proposal passed with ten “yes” votes, two abstentions, and one dissenter—Ally MacLean, class of 2019 president.

SEAL must approve an organization for affiliation before it proceeds to secure SGA funding. Before instituting the new policy, the Organization Recognition and Review Board—made up of SGA members and Meier—would approve organizations for SGA recognition, and the SGA treasury would approve their budgets. Organizations neither affiliated nor SGA-funded are now referred to as independent organizations rather than unrecognized organizations.

“I’ve been working together with the executive board of SGA for the last eight months [to talk about] how [we can] streamline this process and make it more consistent every single semester,” Meier said.

Last semester, in response to the dissolution of the ORRB, SGA voted to approve the

outline of a new process to recognize student organizations in collaboration with SEAL.

To become an affiliated organization, an independent organization must attend an information session hosted by SEAL, fill out an EmConnect form, and—if they achieve affiliated status—attend a three-week training with SEAL focused primarily on organization risk reduction and financial policies.

The Jan. 22 SGA meeting with Meier focused on questions asked in the EmConnect affiliation application form.

Multiple topics sparked debate, such as including a question in the EmConnect application that asks whether or not an organization creates a positive impact on the college community. After a lengthy debate about whether or not SGA could quantify positivity, the governmental body came to the conclusion to simply ask for the impact of the group on campus.

Executive Treasurer Ian Mandt reminded members at the meeting that, if certain organizations promote ideas SGA does not wish to endorse—such as alt-right groups—funding is now separate from affiliation.

“We are intentionally making funding entirely separate from [the affiliation] process,” Mandt said. “An organization could receive affiliation through this objective process, but we have more direct control over funding and have the authority to say, ‘This is an organization that we do not believe should be financially supported.’”

“We have more direct control over funding and have the authority to say ‘This is an organization that we do not believe should be financially supported’”

- Ian Mandt



Class of 2019 President Ally MacLean (top, center) was the only dissenting vote on a proposal to change the student organization recognition process. • Maia Sperber / Beacon Staff

Public records detail Pelton's support for Amazon's headquarters



President M. Lee Pelton was one of several Boston education leaders who penned letters to Amazon Chief Eexecutive Officer Jeff Bezos. *Beacon Archive*

Continued from page 1

“Welcoming Amazon to Boston will create tremendous opportunities for collaboration and engagement with the city and its 35 institutions of higher education.”

Boston-based business leaders, including Boston Ballet Executive Director Meredith Hodges, and elected officials, such as Gov. Charlie Baker, also authored letters to Bezos. Pelton said the Office of the Mayor collected these testimonials to help recruit Amazon to the city, and Emerson joined the effort after the Mayor’s office extended an invitation to the college.

Pelton said the college’s downtown location and relationship with the Mayor’s office factored into the Boston officials’ decision to reach out to the college to help recruit Amazon to the city.

The college’s Amazon Alexa Innovation Fellowship, a program to help advance voice-enabled technologies through student

collaboration at Emerson, did not factor into the Office of the Mayor’s request for the college’s support, according to Pelton.

“It’s our partnership with the city and the recognition that Emerson is an important feature of the higher education landscape in Boston,” Pelton said in an interview with the Beacon. “Quite frankly, I would have been surprised if they had not asked us to participate.”

While Pelton said he could not measure the influence the letter had on Amazon representatives, he noted that Emerson is featured in Boston’s media outlets more often than other colleges or universities in the Boston area.

Included in the public records are draft schedules and emails between Boston officials and Amazon representatives detailing a visit to Boston by the Amazon representatives in early March 2018 to preview potential sites for Amazon’s HQ2. The visit was first reported by the Boston Business Journal.

The drafted schedules included an invitation list for a March 5, 2018 dinner hosted by the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce for the visiting Amazon team. The guest list included notable Boston leaders such as General Electric Vice President of Global Litigation and Legal Policy and former Massachusetts Senator Mo Cowan and Carbonite President and Chief Executive Officer Mohamad Ali.

The schedules also listed Pelton as an invitee for the dinner, but he said he did not attend the dinner due to travel conflicts. Pelton said he had no contact with Amazon representatives other than his letter of support, but he said he was in regular contact with City of Boston Chief of Economic Development John Barros.

“We’ve worked together on other projects,” Pelton said. “We stay in close contact.”

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College looks for retail broker to replace Griddler’s

Continued from page 1

“As a company, we have been shutting down our smaller operations in favor of focusing on our bigger restaurants,” Azevedo said to Eater Boston in an email. “Unless BNV were to open multi-units of the concept, it does not make business sense to keep a small operation. It’s basically too much headache for little profit.”

The college bought 134-136 Boylston, the building that housed the former burger restaurant for less than four years, on May 28, 2018 for \$7 million. Mombourquette said the college was aware that the restaurant might be closing when they bought the building.

“We had a sense that they might be closing, and we saw this as an opportunity to bring something fresh and new in there,” Mombourquette said. “We parted amicably.”

The college purchased the building to bring in revenue and maintain control over what businesses neighbor the downtown Boston campus. Mombourquette said 134-136 Boylston St. brings in approximately \$350,000 a year.

“The building drives a fair amount of revenue,” he said. “We do want to be in control, as much as we can, of what happens around our campus.”

Mombourquette told the Beacon that the college had no plans to use the space in the building when they purchased 134-136 Boylston. The building consists of the space left by the Griddler’s restaurant after closing, and three occupied rental apartments. The college honored the existing leases of the building’s tenants when they purchased the building, according to Mombourquette.

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College bans plastic bags on campus following city ordinance

Stephanie Purifoy, *Beacon Staff*

On-campus businesses stopped distributing plastic bags to comply with a city ordinance. The ordinance requires establishments to give out reusable, recyclable, or compostable bags and charge at least 5 cents for the once complementary item. Recyclable paper bags replaced plastic ones at on-campus stores on Dec. 14, according to Vice President and Dean for Campus Life James Hoppe. Boston Mayor Marty Walsh said he supported the initiative to reduce plastic in the environment and litter in the city, according to the Boston Globe. Hoppe said students would see a difference at Barnes & Noble at Emerson College, the Textbook Annex, and the C-Store at the Max Cafe—the only locations on-campus that offered plastic bags. A sign posted on the door of the Textbook Annex notifies students that a paper bag will cost 10 cents but an employee said the C-Store is not charging for bags. “We want to practice what we preach. We say [sustainability is] one of our values and we need to put it into action,” Hoppe said. “We hope it’s going to be a fairly easy transition.” Residence Director of 2 Boylston Place residence hall Desiree Bradford created a take-one-leave-one reusable bag program for the building to make the ban easier on students. She



While the Textbook Annex will charge 10 cents for paper bags, the C-Store will not. Anissa Gardizy / *Beacon Staff*

placed a container full of reusable bags in the 2 Boylston Place lobby with an informational poster about the new city ban. Anyone can take a bag if they are going out shopping then return it when they come back. Bradford said she wanted to help students who might need to adjust to bringing an extra

item while shopping. “I think Emerson students are mostly positive about sustainability. All of the complaints I’ve heard have been about the charge for a bag,” Bradford said. Assistant Dean of Campus Life Elizabeth Ching-Bush initiated a broader program in

collaboration with Bradford to make reusable shopping bags available for students to borrow across campus. Ching-Bush said she collaborated with the Office of Intercultural Student Affairs, Student Engagement and Leadership, and Off Campus Student Services. The college is in negotiations with a manufacturer to purchase a large quantity of reusable bags, but the cost is still uncertain, she said. Ching-Bush said the college is still deciding how to distribute the bags to students. Possible options include residence assistants going door-to-door in residence halls to hand out bags, or leaving boxes around campus for students to pick up bags. “We would like them to be accessible in multiple ways so a student doesn’t have to worry about going to a store and paying for a bag,” Ching-Bush said. “It’s a small fee that adds up for a student.” She said the plastic bag ban will help students shift their shopping habits and make them more mindful of their how material possessions affect the environment. “As more and more cities are trying to be sustainable, it’ll just be much easier for students to already have reusable bags and already have those habits,” she said.

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Laundry prices decrease at Kasteel Well

Flora Li, *Beacon Staff*

Laundry prices at the Kasteel Well campus dropped from two euros, or \$2.28, per cycle to one euro, or \$1.14, starting in the spring 2019 semester. Kasteel Well Executive Director Dulcia Meijers said in a phone interview that the Netherlands campus adopted the new price for the spring semester after hearing about the change in Boston. Students can purchase laundry coins, only available in packs of five, with each laundry cycle costing one coin. Previously, students at Kasteel Well paid ten euros for a pack of five laundry coins—now, they will only pay five euros per pack. Washing and drying one load of clothes last semester cost four euros, or \$4.60. While the current cost for laundry at Emerson Los Angeles remains \$1.50 per cycle, administrative officials were not able to comment due to their tight schedule during spring orientation on whether or not the price

"Why do I need to pay for laundry [when] on the Boston campus it's free?"
- Nicole Salvatore

will decrease. Sophomore Nicole Salvatore studied at Kasteel Well in fall 2018 when the Boston campus made the switch to free laundry. She said she usually spent two coins for washing, since the washing machines were small, and one coin for the drying machine—totaling 3 coins, or \$3.42. “Why do I need to pay for laundry [when] on the Boston campus it’s free?” Salvatore said in an interview. Salvatore said that, during the Fall 2018 semester, she and some other students calculated the price of laundry at Kasteel Well and emailed

President M. Lee Pelton. The college then offered all Kasteel Well students one free pack of laundry coins for the semester. Meijers said the Kasteel Well administration did not know laundry was free at the Boston campus before the students emailed Pelton.

"A little support for all the extra services is worthwhile."
- Dulcia Meijers

Meijers said because the Kasteel Well program provides more residential services than the Boston Campus, such as room cleaning, it is unlikely laundry will become free in the future. Meijers said she hopes students consider the laundry fee as a contribution to a cleaner residential environment. “A little support for all the extra services is worthwhile,” Meijers said. The Office of Student Affairs at Kasteel Well hires cleaners for the dorms who take out trash, vacuum, and clean the bathrooms throughout the semester. The cleaners also make the beds before students’ arrival, Meijers said. She said that, although the laundry price decreased, the extra services will remain. “It’s like hotel service,” Meijers said. “When students arrive, everything in their rooms is beautifully done. They just need to pull out their suitcase and fill the cabinet.” Senior Advisor for Student Affairs Tikesha Morgan helps manage student life at the castle. “Students can expect to have a clean room when they arrive or go back from their spring break,” Morgan said in a phone interview. Meijers said the college prefers to keep the students’ dorms clean. She said that, when a cleaning service was not provided in past years, many students would never wash their sheets or quilts.

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Vice president of administration and finance position remains vacant

Anissa Gardizy, *Beacon Staff*

The vice president of administration and finance position remains vacant after the former vice president, Maureen Murphy, died on Dec. 12. President M. Lee Pelton said in an interview that the college is taking a three-prong approach to handling the vacancy—creating a search committee, hiring a search firm, and hiring an interim vice president of administration and finance. Pelton said the goal is to hire the interim vice president on or around Feb. 1 and the permanent vice president on or around July 1. The college interviewed two search firms—who will help find and recruit applicants for the job—and hopes to find a firm by Jan. 28, according to Pelton. The vice president of administration and finance oversees the college’s financial, physical, and human resources. The office is responsible for improving the college’s financial strength and serves as a liaison to committees such as the Board of Trustees Finance Committee, the Investment Committee, the Facilities Committee, and the Audit Committee. In the meantime, Pelton and the four people who reported to Murphy have taken on the responsibilities of the office of vice president of administration and finance. These four includes Arthur Mombourquette, senior associate vice president for real estate, Shari Stier, senior associate vice president and chief human resources officer, Robert Butler, associate vice president for finance, and Loretta Bemis, associate vice president for financial business

"Two of the most pressing issues for our students today are financial transparency and increased financial aid."
- M. Lee Pelton

Student Government Association Executive Treasurer Ian Mandt said he will serve as the student representative on the committee. He was asked to serve in an email from Pelton. “Lee Pelton is aware that I worked with [Murphy] pretty closely before she took a leave of absence for health-related reasons,” Mandt said. “I consulted with other members of SGA to make sure we were okay with me serving as a student representative. So pretty much within a day or so, I responded back saying I was interested.” Pelton said he wanted a student on the search committee because the vice president of administration and finance handles matters that have an impact on students. “I wanted a student on the committee because two of the most pressing issues for our students today are financial transparency and increased financial aid,” Pelton said.

services. Pelton said he meets with this group every other week. “They are highly competent and it is a strong team, so I do not feel like we are going to miss a beat,” Pelton said. The college is assembling a search committee composed of members from the Board of Trustees, faculty, administration, and one student to find someone to fill the vacancy, according to Pelton. The search committee reviews applicants for the position. Michael MacWade, the Board of Trustees treasurer, chairs the committee. He served on the search committee to hire a vice president for development and alumni relations in 2016. A security officer notified ECPD of a person who walked into Piano Row without tapping. The individual was found and the problem was resolved.

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Incident Journal

The Emerson College Police Department provides the Incident Journal to the Beacon every week. Beacon staff edit the Incident Journal for style and clarity but not for content.

Thursday, Jan. 17
ECPD investigated a report of a person who aggressively panhandled inside the Paramount Center lobby. The person left before ECPD’s arrival.

ECPD and OHRL investigated a strong smell of marijuana in the Piano Row residence hall. Two students admitted to ECPD that

they smoked marijuana earlier.

Friday, Jan. 18
An ECPD officer discovered a fake driver’s license in a lost wallet found in the Dining Center. ECPD confiscated the license and informed the Office of Community Standards & Student Conduct.

An ECPD officer found the front door of the Professional Studies building unsecured. ECPD searched and secured the area.

ECPD found a door to the Center for Health and Wellness unsecured. ECPD secured the door after a search of the area.

Sunday, Jan. 20
A security officer notified ECPD of a person who walked into Piano Row without tapping. The individual was found and the problem was resolved.

editorial

Title IX changes require action, transparency from administration

At issue: Proposed changes to Title IX regulations

Our take: Talk won't combat new Title IX policies

Editorials are written solely by Editor-in-Chief Maya Gacina, Managing Editor Monika Davis, Opinion Editor Katie Schmidt, Deputy Opinion Editor Diti Kohli, and Assistant Opinion Editor Ziqi Wang without consultation from other staff members, and does not influence any stories. Op-Eds reflect the views of only their authors, not The Berkeley Beacon.

Last week, we published a Beacon Breakdown on the Title IX changes proposed by Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. These amendments would alter how colleges handle sexual misconduct cases and complaints. The new rules could replace the Obama administration's call for stricter enforcement of the 1972 law, which mandated gender equity among institutions that accept federal money, such as Emerson.

Under these new changes, schools would only be required to respond to accusations if an official report or multiple reports about the same person were made. Earlier Title IX regulations instructed colleges to use the lowest standard of proof when investigating sexual misconduct. These changes would call for a higher standard of “clear and convincing evidence,” according to The Washington Post.

According to an article in The New York Times, the regulations would narrow the scope of complaints schools are obligated to investigate. Schools would no longer be required to investigate misconduct claims that occur off campus or outside of school-sponsored programs. And the accused would have the right to cross-examine their accuser.

In May 2014, the Department of Education named Emerson as one of the 55 colleges under investigation due to possible violations of Title IX policies and how the college handles sexual violence and harassment complaints.

As the primary source of on-campus news, the Beacon holds a responsibility to inform its audience—Emerson students, staff, and faculty—on local and national controversies

affecting them. Under the proposed changes, students accused of sexual misconduct would gain greater protections, and colleges investigating complaints could face reduced accountability, according to The Chronicle of Higher Education.

The Beacon published an editorial immediately after the college's lead Title IX investigator, Pamela Ring, resigned last January. We discussed how a new investigator could potentially bring about a more accessible Title IX Office.

"Though Pelton's public dissent aids the college's image, it does not make up for the lack of action on campus."

Last September, we started to update the Emerson community on the office's job search every month. Despite our efforts to actively publish updates during the search process, nothing has been done by the school to make a change. After a year-long search, the Title IX Office is still without a lead investigator.

Our campus culture suffers as repeated sexual abusers and offenders carry on without consequence. Student engagement and leadership policies make ousting students in organizations on campus almost impossible.

As a result of these policies, it has become more difficult to hold these individuals accountable for sexual misconduct.

On Jan. 16, President M. Lee Pelton joined Mayor Martin J. Walsh and other Boston college and university presidents at a public announcement directed at the Department of Education. The group challenged the proposed changes and their adverse effects on the accuser. WGBH also interviewed Pelton alongside Berklee College of Music President Roger Brown. Berklee announced in Nov. 2017 they had terminated 11 professors in 13 years for sexual assault and harassment.

In these public appearances, Pelton voiced strong opposition to the changes that could complicate the Title IX process. Though Pelton's public dissent aids the college's image, it does not make up for the lack of action on campus.

Though we value the administration's public advocacy against these new Title IX regulations, it is vital this vocal support translates into concrete change. We ask for more transparency from the Title IX Office and hope they will be willing to communicate their progress and goals with the Beacon and the rest of the Emerson community. We understand the need for confidentiality, but keeping our student platform largely in the dark contradicts the message of support the college advertises to the public.

Letters

If you want to respond to, or share an opinion about, an article in the Beacon, you can write a short letter to the editor. Email it to letters@berkeleybeacon.com. Please note that letters may be edited. Submissions for print must be shorter than 250 words.

The Berkeley Beacon

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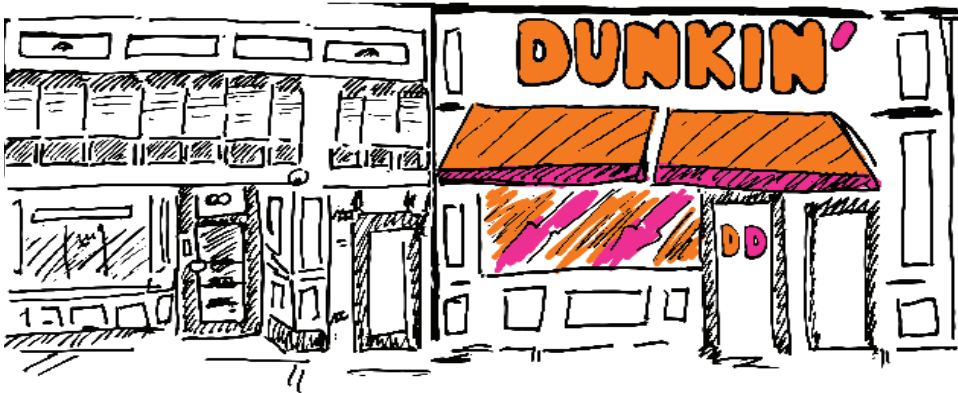
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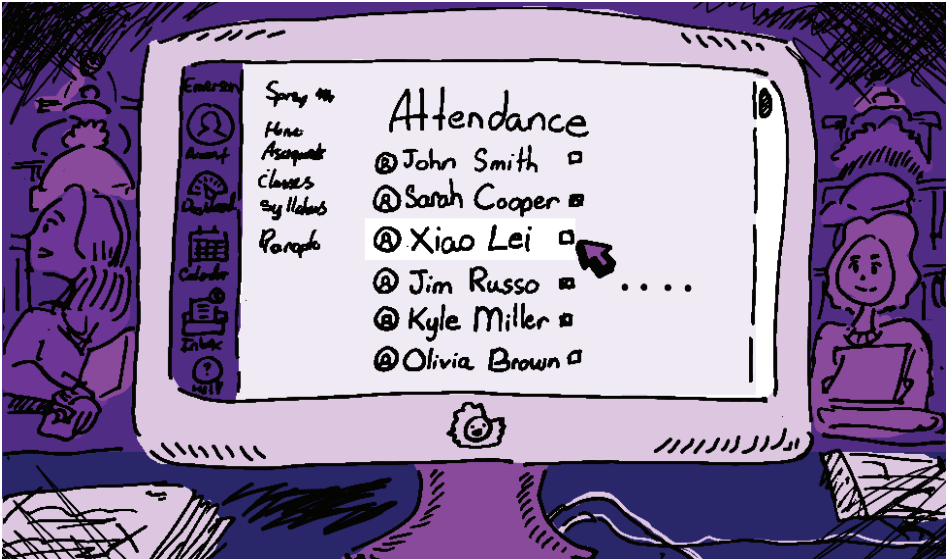
by the Editorial Board
illustration by Ally Rzesza

Emerson replaces
Griddler's with a
“healthier” option.



opinion

Unfamiliar names deserve proper pronunciation



I know everyone I meet will not have the same interest in learning to say my name correctly.
Illustration by Ally Rzesza / Beacon Staff

Ziqi Wang

Wang is a sophomore journalism major & the assistant opinion editor for the Beacon.

While working in the journalism office last week, my boss asked me to make a list of a few common sounds in Chinese names that professors might find hard to pronounce. He was considering giving professors a short Chinese lesson at their weekly meeting. He studied Mandarin in college and knows native English speakers often find pronouncing Chinese words difficult.

When I started working in the department last semester, he asked all front desk assistants to send him a brief email introducing ourselves to the faculty. On the first day, I remember a professor stopping by my desk to ask how to pronounce my name.

I told him he could call me Ziggy, but he

insisted I tell him my real name. I complied, but then he insisted I remind him of my name whenever I see him so he doesn't get it wrong and ended the interaction with a promise to get it right someday.

After that interaction, I realized everyone's interest in pronouncing my name correctly. One of my journalism professors even felt bad for not calling me by my real name, so she recorded the pronunciation of it on her phone to study it.

So why is Mandarin hard for those who speak Western languages? Chinese names spelled out using the English alphabet are called pinyin (pīn yīn), which means "spelled sounds." Pinyin is difficult to many English speakers because it's formed by clusters of letters—called initials and finals—and not individual consonant and vowel sounds. For example, my family name is Wang. W is the initial, pronounced as (w),

and ANG together is the final, pronounced as (aŋ), instead of /æŋ/. Both pinyin and English use all 26 letters, but the pronunciations differ. In English, Q sounds like /k/, but in Chinese it almost sounds like /ch/.

I know everyone I meet will not have the same interest in learning to say my name correctly, but some of the comments I hear when professors encounter non-traditional Western names makes me wonder if they are willing to learn them at all.

I often hear phrases such as, "I'm going to get this wrong" and "correct me if I'm wrong" when professors take attendance, but I feel that these phrases are excuses. They are telling someone that their name is difficult and unusual, and it's okay for people to

new language to pronounce students' names right. I'm asking for effort when native English speakers comes across a word or name they don't know. It means a lot if you ask for the pronunciation and try to say it a few times. If you still don't get it, it's okay to ask again.

When professors call on fellow Chinese students in class for the first time, I always hope those students will correct the professor's pronunciation of their name. Yet I often see them raise their hand and give their English name. Sometimes I don't correct professors because I feel it's a waste of time since most professors never intended to learn my name anyway.

An old Chinese proverb states it's admirable if you're willing to learn from those beneath you. I believe everyone should have more curiosity and willingness to ask for help when they are unsure of words and names from other languages. I also hope professors will spend more time before classes familiarizing themselves with names they can't pronounce to make roll call a less painful experience for all of us. Students should also have the confidence to speak up when their names are pronounced wrong. As Emerson admits more and more international students, we must create a more friendly, accepting environment so students of different cultures don't feel ostracized.

"When professors call on fellow Chinese students in class for the first time, I always hope those students will correct the professor's pronunciation."

English is not my first language, but I never tell people I'm unwilling to learn the pronunciation of words I don't know—not only because I chose to study in an English-speaking country but I also respect its culture. I never assume the meaning or pronunciation of words I don't know. Instead of giving excuses and automatically assuming

I'm going to mispronounce an unfamiliar word, I ask. I encounter difficult Spanish and European names when I meet new people at Emerson, and I practice them until I get them right.

I'm not advocating for everyone to learn a

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Major Thoughts: there's more than the 'L' in WLP

Erin Wood

Wood is a junior writing, literature and publishing major & a Beacon correspondent.

I chose Emerson because the writing, literature and publishing major offers a diverse curriculum with a focus on a variety of careers in the literary world. It felt like the perfect major for me—the only one I could find that would give me the option of pursuing a career in publishing while primarily studying creative writing.

I don't regret attending Emerson, but the writing, literature and publishing program's shortcomings—a disproportionate curriculum and a faculty lacking in diversity—lead me to doubt my preparation for a career in the writing or publishing field.

The distribution of 'writing,' 'literature,' and 'publishing' courses within the major needs to be revisited by the department. Many students, including myself, take issue with the vast number of required literature classes. For a typical writing, literature and publishing student who did not take the Bachelor of Fine Arts route for a creative writing or publishing concentration, the college requires a minimum of eight literature courses in comparison to only three writing courses and two publishing. While literature is a vital aspect of the major, this number of required courses is excessive for those who gravitate toward the publishing or writing side of the spectrum.

When asked the question, "Are you the 'W,' the 'L,' or the 'P?'" in writing, literature and publishing, I have personally never heard anyone respond with "L." However, the major's curriculum is more favorable towards literature

students. Literature classes—while teaching us a lot about writing, history, and culture—mainly prepare students for a career in academia. On the other hand, writing and publishing skills lead to staff writing positions, in-house publishing jobs, and editorial positions. As a result, I find myself concerned about how the college prepares us for the future. Students without an emphasis in creative writing or publishing can learn a lot about literature but only the basics of the other two components.

As a writing, literature and publishing major focusing primarily on creative writing, I find two introductory writing courses at the 200-level and one intermediate course at the 300-level are not enough to fully develop and explore my writing skills, especially because I don't know what particular field of writing I want to pursue.

The curriculum expects students to enter the writing, literature and publishing program knowing whether or not they lean toward fiction, nonfiction, or magazine writing. This is not the case for many students, including myself. I fulfilled all of my writing requirements by the end of the summer and still have no idea where my preference lies. Students are allowed to take as many elective courses as they want, but if a student chooses to take on one or more minors—like I did with public relations and philosophy—their schedule becomes more difficult to maneuver.

The writing, literature and publishing program also only requires students to take two publishing courses out of six options, which is insufficient for students with a curiosity for different aspects of the publishing industry, such as editing and design. While Emerson has a publishing concentration that allows students to register for more publishing courses, it's not ideal for students



While literature is a vital aspect of the major, the number of required literature courses is excessive for those who gravitate toward the publishing or writing side. • Illustration by Ally Rzesza / Beacon Staff

"The distribution of 'writing,' 'literature,' and 'publishing' courses within the major needs to be revisited by the department."

like me who are equally interested in all three aspects of the major.

Aside from my issues with the curriculum, I have also noticed a lack of diversity among the writing, literature and publishing professors. White faculty members make up about 79 percent of the department, and people of color make up only 19 percent. Diversity is not only beneficial but also essential, especially when it comes to writing. Writing acts as a powerful and universal tool with the capability to promote activism and change. Without proper exposure to and education of diverse ways of thought, we cannot properly prepare for our careers in the professional world.

Despite a student calling for diversity within the literary material taught at Emerson in a 2017 Beacon column, the matter of who's teaching it

is equally important. If we aren't seeing diverse faces or learning about them in the classroom, we aren't getting the most out of our education. This isn't to say my professors haven't been helpful—they have, and most haven't shied away from the topic of race. However, many of my peers and I would like to see some new, additional faces and fresh points of view.

I've appreciated my time in the writing, literature and publishing major. However, there are obvious improvements to be made, and I am hopeful for the future of the department. With the recent introduction of the publishing concentration, it is clear that our voices have been heard, and I hope to see that even more in the future.

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living arts

Alumna takes the booze out of the bar in NYC

Caroline Broderick, *Beacon Staff*

As Lorelei Bandrovski’s 27th birthday neared, she asked 27 of her friends to each give her a personal challenge. She initially disliked one challenge to quit drinking for a month, but it ultimately went to inspire her to open her own alcohol-free bar five years later.

“When I opened myself up to it, [not drinking] was something I enjoyed in really unexpected ways,” Bandrovski ‘09 said. “It showed me a lot about myself. It showed me how fun I can be, and also how fun [being sober] can be. It was an eye-opening moment.”

Bandrovski began planning for Listen Bar in October 2017. A year later, she opened the bar as a four-day pop-up in Williamsburg, New York and received over 600 RSVPs.

Listen Bar hosts Dry January events at VON Bar in Manhattan every Monday of the month, but Bandrovski said she has plans to establish a permanent home for the “all bar, no booze” space in Brooklyn, New York. She is using iFundWomen to crowdfund for a permanent location.

Bandrovski came to Emerson as an international student from Romania and graduated with a double major in advertising and media studies. She said Emerson gave her the ability to think through a more creative lens.

“I’m a big fan of Emerson. There’s a lot of openness to individuality and that kind of exploration,” Bandrovski said. “Coming from a background of really rigid education, it was really nice to push myself in different ways.”

She said she sees parallels between her memories of moving to the United States and deciding to open up a booze-free bar over a decade later.

“There was this moment of, ‘Holy s—, I’m in a different country.’ [It was] a very new chapter of life beginning,” Bandrovski said. “It’s funny thinking about that in a way that’s similar to what I’m doing now, kind of jumping in feet first and just going for it—doing something I didn’t really have context for, but in many ways I felt very ready for.”

The original no-alcohol challenge came from a close friend. Danny Madden ‘09 is a co-founder of Ornana films and has been sober his whole life. According to Madden, Bandrovski would tease him for not drinking, so he decided to challenge her to try it herself.

“Lorelei is the kind of person who infuses adventure into everything she does. This bar, this whole alcohol-free drinking space, is kind of a perfect manifestation of her attitude,” Madden said. “She knows what it means to go out and have a fun night, so she’s putting all her interests into this one thing that I think will make people think differently. What’s better than that?”

After her first month sober, Bandrovski began making “one month dry” a yearly tradition, though she says she could never completely give up alcohol. She admits she did not predict opening a bar based around this experience, but she used her skills in advertising, innovation consulting, and experience design—where she would design the experience a consumer may have with a brand or product—to imagine a bar without the alcohol and what it would need to succeed.

Bandrovski left her full-time job less than two years ago to seriously plan opening Listen Bar. She said she had no answer to the question, “What do you do?” so she spent several months traveling to figure it out. Bandrovski’s travels started with a one-way ticket to Guatemala, then headed to Mexico, Greece, Berlin, London, Romania, and Iceland. After traveling, she said the idea to open an alcohol-free bar had sunk its claws into her and she never looked back.

The first step was to work on the brand—one with a trendy and relatable tone but also with a bit of authority—and decide what she needed to do to maintain the bar aspect, but without the alcohol. She said the drinks were the most important step to tackle.

“I had this vision of really bringing different people into it and having this idea that the menu showcases what’s the best of the best out there,” Bandrovski said. “The best ingredients, the best everything.”

Eamon Rockey, the director of beverage studies at the Institute for Culinary Education in New York and creator of his own beverage company, designed Listen Bar’s menu. Bandrovski wanted an eclectic mix of people to design the drinks. She hired an herbalist and nutritionist to work on the menu alongside other mixologists.

Listen Bar drinks vary from \$8-\$13, from hot or cold to bottle or draft, and include custom cocktails. Cocktails have names such as “Me, A Houseplant,” with lemon, cucumber, elderflower, and seedlip garden, and “Ghost Me Maybe,” with grapefruit, rosemary, and Thomas Henry slim tonic.

Esme Benjamin, a wellness editor at Culture Trip, first heard of Listen Bar through an Instagram post. Benjamin attended both the original four-day pop-up and a Dry January event.

“I was just amazed at how much it felt like a real bar,” Benjamin said. “There was a really good ensemble of people there, there was music, everyone was talking, [and] it was crowded. They obviously put a lot of thought about how they chose the drinks menu.”

Listen Bar also partnered with Plant People, a company that produces various cannabidiol products, to offer CBD products for an event



Lorelei Bandrovski ‘09 is crowdfunding to find a permanent home for her booze-free bar, Listen Bar. • *Courtesy of Shannon Sturgis*

called “Self Care is the New Rock ‘n’ Roll.” According to Plant People’s website, CBD is extracted from cannabis and provides medicinal properties that relieve anxiety.

Listen Bar has hosted karaoke events and events with a tattoo artist on site. The bartenders are also musicians and play their own music for attendees, which Bandrovski said creates conversation between the mixologist and the drinker.

“Music is a really big component of Listen Bar,” Bandrovski said. “[The bartenders] are the ones curating the playlists, so we’re kind of a music-discovery space as well.”

Listen Bar and their Dry January pop-up have started a conversation for the “sober-curious,” according to Bandrovski and Benjamin. By using nutritionists and herbalists, Listen Bar hopes to appeal to those interested in wellness and those wanting to ditch the calories of traditional alcohol.

“Binge drinking almost feels really retro now—no one really does that,” Benjamin said. “I definitely think there’s been people who are questioning more their reliance on alcohol for everything—for confidence, for social situations—and wondering whether it really

serves them to continue drinking”

Bandrovski hopes to crowdfund \$100,000 for her permanent booze-free bar. She raised over \$9,500 as of Jan. 20. The iFundWomen campaign runs until the end of January. With an official space, Bandrovski hopes to expand what Listen Bar can do.

“The nice thing of having a permanent space is it becomes a place people can really rally around and a community can grow around,” Bandrovski said. “That to me is very exciting.”

Bandrovski said she created Listen Bar to start conversation and to create a space for everyone—drinkers and non-drinkers. Listen Bar’s mantra is “a good ass time,” according to Bandrovski.

“Ultimately what it is, is just challenging the default. I feel like that’s something that Lorelei [Bandrovski] is all about and has really become a mantra of hers and in her life,” Madden said. “As an adult she can choose what she does, and why choose the normal stuff? That’s part of the whole spirit behind Listen Bar, and I really like that.”

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Person of Color Column: From majority to minority



Melanie Curry
Curry is a sophomore journalism major, Beacon staff writer, and this week’s POC columnist.

As I was eating lunch one afternoon, my half-Latina friend asked me a question I’ve been waiting to hear since enrolling at Emerson: “Is that your real hair?”

It comes as no shock to me that this friend or any other Emerson student might ask me this question at some point. I am, after all, a person of color attending a predominantly white institution. I prepared myself to go into the full spiel—an explanation of black hair and the natural hair process.

“You have box braids, weaves, tree braids, cornrows, and what I’m wearing—faux locs,” I rambled on. “They’re called protectives styles.”

My friend nodded every few minutes and continued asking questions—“What are tree braids?” “What does your real hair look like?” “If your hair isn’t natural, then what does it look like?”

I’ve never needed to explain my hair to someone before. All my life I lived in Lithonia,

Georgia—a bubble of black people. Lithonia, a suburb of Atlanta, has an African-American population of 84.3 percent. Caucasian, Hispanic, and Asian people make up the remaining 15.7 percent—a surprising feat considering I rarely saw a white or Latinx person before arriving at Emerson.

Lithonia not only existed as a home for many black people, but also as a hub for our culture. Nail salons, beauty supply stores, wing restaurants, hair and barber salons, and convenience stores lined almost every block and catered for black people’s needs. I never traveled far if I craved an Arizona Tea, or if I needed Kanekalon hair for getting box braids at my hair appointment. I never felt out of place in Lithonia. How could I? I was in the majority.

When I arrived at Emerson last September, the feeling of being of the “majority” quickly wore off. During the first hall meeting of the semester, I noticed I was the only black person in my suite. I knew Emerson had a small black student population, but at a school that strives for diversity, I didn’t know I would feel isolated from the rest of the community.

Not only am I at an institution where white students represent 56 percent of the school’s population, but I also live in Boston, a city where African-American people make up 31.5 percent less of the population than where I grew

up. However, the demographic difference is only one aspect of the problem. Boston culture largely does not include black cultural representations, such as nail salons and beauty supply stores. Because of this, I struggled to adjust to this new cultural and racial environment.

A type of vulnerability manifests when I notice I’m the only black person in a classroom. I feel as if everyone stares at me, wondering why I’m there. At my high school, Dekalb Early College Academy, minority students made up 99 percent of enrollment, with 91 percent being African-American, according to U.S. News. I became accustomed to the familiarity of going to a school with black people. But at Emerson, where classrooms are filled with one, two, or sometimes zero black people, I struggle to feel a sense of belongingness.

To adjust to college, I joined Emerson’s Black Organization with Natural Interest, or EBONI. EBONI is a safe place for black people where we can relate to and share the struggles of being black at a white school. I wanted some resemblance of home, and I thought EBONI would be my saving grace. At EBONI, I feel in the majority again, even if only for two hours a week. But two hours a week can’t help me escape my reality at Emerson. EBONI helped me make friends and get in touch with my culture, but it hasn’t helped me shake the uncomfortable

feeling of being black in a white space.

Recently, I read a Teen Vogue article titled, “What It’s Like to Be Black at a Predominantly White School,” because I hoped to understand how to adjust to Emerson’s white community. The article gave me insight on how to deal with racist experiences and how to navigate different cultural boundaries. It taught me that Emerson will be what I make of it. At Emerson, I will never attain the same familiarity and comfortability I feel at home, but I can strive toward building a community that gives me the comfort of being in college.

Though my current community does not reflect the culture of Lithonia, it is still a diverse blend of different ethnicities, religions, and identities. Emerson College made me uncomfortable, and that is not a bad thing. Being uncomfortable has helped me become accustomed to my new cultural environment. Sometimes I wish I attended a school where black people make up the majority, because I crave an environment similar to my hometown. But the reality is that I attend a school where black people represent 4 percent of the school’s population, and I couldn’t be happier.

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Alumnus film "Egg" addresses taboos of motherhood

Continued from page 1

"It is kind of a rare occurrence that we'll have the opportunity to share something of this level with students," Croft said in a phone interview. After Croft shared the opportunity on the Emerson Mafia Facebook page, Annette Sherrod '18 found the post, beginning her journey from student projects to her first feature movie set. Sherrod spent the summer before her senior year in an abandoned bank in New Rochelle, New York. There, she built an apartment from the ground up for the set of *Egg*. Croft shared the unpaid internship opportunity on social media to reach as many students as possible. Along with Sherrod, Basche hired Farrah Alturki, Thelonious Frumkin, Kelsi Carter, and Isabelle Alexander to work on the set.

"It was really good of [Basche] to reach out to the Emerson community first when he knew that they would have opportunities for internships, to do that favor for students of his former school," Sherrod said in a phone interview. Basche said writer Risa Mickenberg shared *Egg's* script, originally intended as a play, with him a decade ago. *Egg* never premiered as a play, but when Basche ran into Mickenberg again over a year ago, he could still remember his assigned character's lines. When he read the screenplay

version of *Egg*, he said he knew it had to happen. "We really liked the characters of the story, and it really stuck with us," Basche said. "We did not have children then, but it still really resonated with us, about the idea of women choosing not to have children and what that meant." *Egg* also features actors Christina Hendricks from the television series *Mad Men*, Alysia Reiner from *Orange Is the New Black*, Anna Camp from *The Help* and *Pitch Perfect*, and Gbenga Akinagbe, who recently

"It's just the kind of transgressive and satirical comedy that this kind of issue needs," - Annette Sherrod



Christina Hendricks (left) and David Alan Basche '90 (right) star in *Egg*, a film about motherhood that premiered on Jan. 19. Courtesy of David Alan Basche

starred in *The Deuce*. Basche describes *Egg* as a film about friendship, motherhood, money, careers, and being an artist—and all the problems that come along with that. Sherrod saw the movie at the Tribeca Film Festival in Manhattan, New York last spring. She said *Egg* uncovers taboos of motherhood and its relationship with the patriarchy and women's sexuality in a unique way. "It's not the comfortable kind of comedy—you're going to be cringing and squirming uncomfortably while you laugh, and maybe cry," Sherrod said. "It's just the kind of transgressive and satirical comedy that this kind of issue needs, I think, to really stick with people. The film wants to make you laugh, but it also wants to make you think and question what motherhood means."

Sherrod said the bluntness of some of the dialogue may surprise viewers, but a mainstream film finally discussing this topic might relieve others. She said it is important that *Egg* is telling women's stories by women, with a crew made of at least 50 percent of women and almost all-women department heads. *Egg* producers Michele Ganeless, Basche, and Reiner—who is Basche's wife—all had the same desire to create an equal and relaxed shooting environment. "[Reiner], [Ganeless], and I all agreed that we wanted to hire primarily a female crew because we're tired of people complaining about inequality in our business, in Hollywood, in film, and in television. We would rather people just start to take some action and change things," Basche said. "So we knew we were going to hire mostly women. And we did." While Basche is more often an actor than a producer, he said he would consider producing again despite the great amount of work the position demands. If he produces in the future, Basche said he already knows he will reach out to the Emerson community. "I don't think there's been a film that's talked about the choice of not being a mother in the way the film talks about it," Basche said. "So I do hope that it will change some people's attitudes, or at least get people talking and start a conversation about all the different issues in the film."

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She Goes Down: Adult content bans hurt dignified businesses



Allison Hagan Hagan is a senior journalism major, the Beacon's business manager, and sex columnist.

In eighth grade, I followed my first porn blog on Tumblr using my family's computer. One late night scrolling through black-and-white GIFs of straight couples getting down led me on a long journey of learning how to masturbate and discovering where to find the finest homemade material to assist me. My pubescent, 13-year-old self would be devastated to hear that Tumblr banned "adult content," or any media featuring nudity or erotica, in December 2018. Tumblr claims it changed the policy to filter out child pornography, but this promise to remove "non-artistic adult content" further projects a stigma of illegitimacy for sex-based businesses that don't break the law and provide a reliable source of income for hardworking individuals. The online sex industry ranges from "cam girls" to online sex shops, sex-positive bloggers, erotica artists offering niche porn, intercourse advice, vibrators, and more. These businesses fulfill the sexual needs of consumers and make a profit but, beyond that, they provide a safe space to discuss intercourse and pleasure. Sex-based businesses provide in-demand products and services, from essentials such as condoms to custom porn clips for customers. Policies such as the Tumblr ban hurt these ventures by reinforcing taboos and old-fashioned stigmas surrounding the topic of sex. Many venerable sex-based businesses and websites such as Tumblr allowed for open

conversations about sex, which led to the sex industry thriving on the platform. Motherboard reported in 2016 that although only one percent of blogs on the platform produced porn, 22 percent of users on the website consumed it. There's no denying that sex sells. "Cam girls," who perform and interact with customers in live online shows, can make between \$2,500 and \$20,000 per month, according to Forbes. On a larger scale, in July 2016, Forbes reported that sex toys and technology make up a \$15 billion industry that may surpass \$50 billion by 2020. Countries such as Japan and the Netherlands have booming sex industries that range from niche toys such as artificial intelligence sex robots to legalized red-light districts, or parts of a city with a high concentration of sex shops, strip clubs, and other sex-oriented businesses. Sex-centric businesses generate large profits that allow the people working in these industries to live comfortably, but the validity of this entrepreneurship is often undermined by the way online platforms such as Tumblr treat them. These policies further negative stigmas that hurt individuals working in the industry. "As a professional myself, I experience the delegitimizing of my job. A lot of people think that it's just kind of funny instead of seeing the ways it's really critical and really impactful," Ruby Vail—the manager of Good Vibrations, a sex toy and education shop with locations in Brookline and Harvard Square—said. "There

are certainly people who don't want for us to advertise with them, don't want to work with us, or don't want to rent space to us." Instagram and other sites often suspend businesses promoting vibrators and other products due to the sexual nature of their content, even if the images do not violate nudity guidelines. The app recently took down an account run by New York City-based online sex shop Wildflower Sex, but restored the page following a strong response from its followers. Tumblr took a brave stand against the dangerous and offensive "female nipple" with its recent policy change, but it's not alone in this quest—platforms including YouTube, Instagram, and Facebook also face criticism for their strict, poorly executed guidelines relating to sexual content and algorithms that often wrongfully flag posts that don't break the rules. These websites have been called out for adopting stricter adult content policies to appease advertisers instead of making guidelines that reflect the values of the platforms' users. "Having things less visible makes them more stigmatized," Vail said. These businesses make money, but beyond this capitalistic value, they also serve as a space for people to talk about the stigmatized topics of sexual pleasure and safety. Sex-based spaces, both online and in the real world, facilitate conversations that make many people uncomfortable. Uneasy patrons can feel more

comfortable talking about the subject in a sex store rather than formal spaces such as a health clinic, Vail said. "[Sex-based companies are] pretty viable businesses, but the other piece is sex is an almost universal experience," Vail said. "I would argue for folks who are asexual or not engaging in sex are still encountering sex and sexuality, even if they decided not to engage. There are very few things we can say are universal besides sex." Vail, who started working in sex education 12 years ago, said the Tumblr ban and similar online censoring further stigmatize and negatively impact both those working in the sex industry and businesses such as Good Vibes. The latter hosts sex education workshops and offers a vast online catalog from dildos to free sex explainers on pegging. "People don't really value learning about sex in the way they value learning about other things," Vail said. If you're not in the market for a new butt plug or any X-rated clips, you can still support these marginalized creators by purchasing their merchandise or art. If you want to support the sex industry but you're low on cash, you can show your favorite business and influencers love with your likes and comments on social media. Start by checking out artist and writer Jacq the Stripper as well as actress and dancer Kyra Cherie. Whether you prefer to keep sex in the bedroom or to use it to line your wallet, remember to support all laborers—even those working in twelve-inch platform heels and designing artificial intelligence sex robots.

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sports

RECENT RESULTS

MEN’S BASKETBALL: Emerson 86 — Babson 83, Jan. 23
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL: Emerson 60 — Wheaton 51, Jan. 23
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL: Smith 68 — Emerson 59, Jan. 19
MEN’S BASKETBALL: Emerson 80 — Wheaton 68, Jan. 19

Men's volleyball seeks improvement with young talent



Senior Win Kittivatcharapong (Center, No. 18) goes in for a kill in a game last season.
Kyle Bray / Beacon Staff



Matt Connolly (right) will enter his sophomore season as a middle blocker.
Kyle Bray / Beacon Staff

Jake Peter, Beacon Staff

The men’s volleyball team will aim for a longer playoff run in 2019 after losing in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference quarterfinals for the last five years.

The Lions finished 5-9 in conference play last season and made the playoffs for the ninth year. Emerson ranks sixth out of eight teams in this year’s GNAC Preseason Coaches’ Poll, ahead of Regis University and Colby-Sawyer College.

Men’s volleyball head coach Ben Read said the team hopes to improve upon last year’s success and advance further into the playoffs.

“The conference we’re in is extremely competitive,” Read said. “But we’ve got a really strong core, and we’re hoping that can carry us to where we want to be.”

Senior libero Jacob DiTore said the team’s newest players will help the men’s volleyball team reach their goals this season.

“Our freshmen are amazing, attitude-wise and also in what they bring to the court,” DiTore said. “I’m very excited to see what they have to bring because they’re all very different player with different skill sets. They’re going to make us more dynamic.”

The team welcomes four new players this season—freshmen Leon Chen, Josh Elliot, and Jonah Higaonna, and sophomore Max Weltz—who could make an immediate impact, according to Read.

“Josh Elliot is someone that can run a very good offense as a setter,” Read said. “Jonah [Higaonna] came in and is a scrappy player who’s very good in the back row. Leon [Chen] could get some playing time in the back row or be a serving specialist for us. Max

"Our freshmen are amazing, attitude-wise and also in what they bring to the court,"
-Jacob DiTore

[Weltz] is helping us out on whatever role we can find him on the court.”

A small roster presents a major challenge for the Lions. With ten available players, the team will have to play matches with only four substitutes. Though he had a bigger roster last season, Read said the team can overcome this obstacle.

“Practicing is a bit more challenging, and we’ve got to stay healthy,” Read said. “We’ve got a good group, but we just need to make sure that we’ve got everyone out on the court at the same time.”

DiTore said the team will need to have a championship mentality as they strive for a more successful season.

“We need to keep our energy up more and be

more positive throughout the year,” DiTore said. “Volleyball’s a mental game, so we can’t go into games with negative energy or get down when we lose a few points.”

Read said the team needs to make some strategic adjustments in order to reach its postseason goals.

“We can serve aggressively to get teams out of their offense to help our defense,” Read said. “If we can pass lights out, that’ll allow us to get the ball to the people we need to in order to be successful.”

The Lions will open the season at home against non-conference opponent Nichols College on Jan. 26 before kicking off GNAC play against Lasell College on Feb. 14.

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Boyle nets 1,000th point against Mount Holyoke

Domenic Conte, Beacon Staff

Senior center Charlie Boyle became the fifth woman in Emerson’s basketball history to break the 1,000-point milestone when the women’s basketball team played against Mount Holyoke College on Jan. 12.

The last woman to score 1,000 points for Emerson was Kristen Brice during her senior season in 2015. Boyle accomplished the feat in 84 games and averaged 11.9 points per game while shooting 51.4 percent.

Boyle said her family witnessed the 79-36 win over Mount Holyoke before flying back to their home in Scotts Valley, California.

“I was nervous because I didn’t let my family and friends tell me how close I was, but I got the hint that I was close when my family came to visit,” Boyle said. “I was so focused on getting it while they visited so I was actually relieved when it happened.”

Boyle, a visual and media arts major, proved a reliable inside scorer early in her college basketball career—averaging 12.4 points per game during her freshman season.

“The one thing that has served Charlie well throughout her time here starting from day one is her level of physicality,” Head Coach Bill Gould said. “Going from a high school senior to a college freshman can bother most kids, but she thrived playing physically.”

In her sophomore season, Boyle averaged 12.7 points per game and played in the starting



Senior Charlie Boyle (left, No. 33) assists her teammate, sophomore Ashley Toner (right, No. 25).
Daniel Peden / Beacon Staff

lineup for all 25 of the Lions’ games. She entered her junior season with 629 points, but a back injury kept her out of the first six games of the season and restricted her to 8.9 points per game.

After experiencing less success than in her previous seasons, Boyle said she learned how to

focus more on durability.

“I learned to make sure that you don’t have one part of the body that is too strong and another part that is too weak, and to stretch a lot,” she said.

This season, Boyle reached career highs

of 13.5 points per game while shooting a conference-best of 58.8 percent.

Gould said Boyle’s reputation as a dominant center forces opponents to prepare accordingly.

“We need to have someone be a presence in the paint so that when other teams watch us play they know they have to worry about us inside,” Gould said. “She’s a player you can’t ignore.”

Sophomore forward Sam Boyle, Charlie’s sister, said she aims to fill the void Charlie will leave after finishing her senior season with the Lions this year by playing similarly under the basket next year.

“Charlie is one of the last true post players I know because the game of basketball is moving away from that kind of play,” Sam said. “Next year when she’s gone I’m going to work on having the same composure she has in the post.”

As her college basketball career comes to a close, Boyle said she awaits her senior night game against Worcester Polytechnic Institute on Feb. 13.

“I’m looking forward to senior night because I’ve put so much time into basketball,” Boyle said. “It will be nice to have that acknowledgment with friends and family.”

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Upcoming games:

Men’s Volleyball

Nichols @ Emerson
Brown/Plofker Gym
Saturday, Jan. 26 at 12 p.m.

Women’s Basketball

Emerson @ Springfield
Blake Arena
Saturday, Jan. 26 at 1 p.m.

Men’s Basketball

Emerson @ MIT
Rockwell Cage
Saturday, Jan. 26 at 2 p.m.

Men’s Volleyball

St. Joseph’s @ Emerson
Brown/Plofker Gym
Saturday, Jan. 26 at 4 p.m.