

The Berkeley Beacon

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College operates with eight director-level vacancies

Anissa Gardizy, *Beacon Staff*

Eight director-level positions remain vacant at the college. The longest vacancy—the deputy Title IX coordinator—has been vacant for more than a year.

A majority of college officials interviewed by the Beacon said the director-level vacancies do not have an effect on their respective departments, and no college-wide effect is evident due to the eight vacancies.

The vacant positions include the deputy Title IX coordinator, associate director of residence life, campus sustainability manager, director of dining services, director of alumni relations and engagement, director of project management, and director of academic engagement. The college filled the vice president of administration and finance position with an interim vice president on Feb. 4.

The college plans to take a three-prong approach to fill the vice president of administration and finance vacancy—hire a search firm, create a search committee, and hire an interim vice president.

The college chose Storbeck Pimentel & Associates as the search firm, according to a Feb. 1 email to the student body from President M. Lee Pelton. Philip Shapiro started serving as the interim vice president for administration and finance on Feb. 4. The deputy Title IX coordinator position, previously named the Title IX investigator, remains vacant after Pamela Ring's departure in January 2018.

See vacancies, page 2



Women's basketball honors seniors in win against WPI

By Andrew Lin and Lara Hill • p. 8

Senior Charlie Boyle (No. 33) poses with her sister Sam (No. 24), her parents, and head coach Bill Gould (far right) before her senior day game. *Maia Sperber / Beacon Staff*

Annual scholarship to memorialize student Lucas Flint

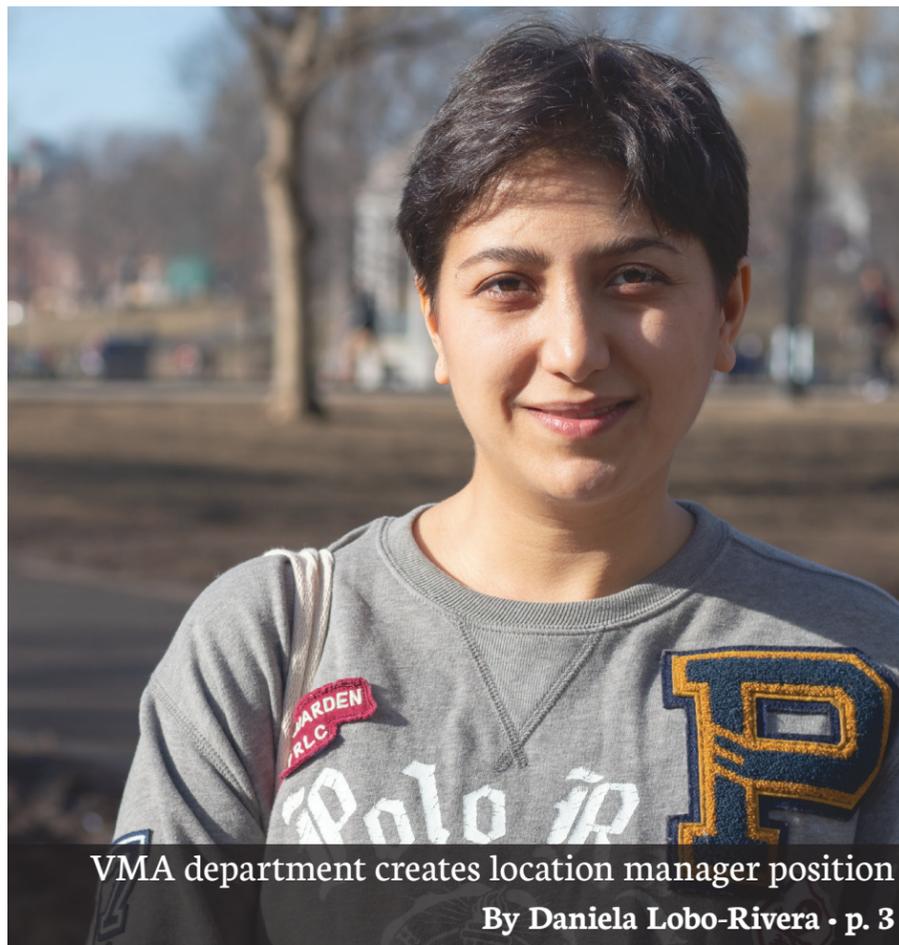
Abigail Hadfield, *Beacon Staff*

The college established an annual \$1,000 Lucas Flint Memorial Scholarship, starting in fall 2019, for incoming students after Emerson parent Kate Mueth raised over \$4,000 through a Facebook fundraiser for Lucas' family.

Director of Parent and Family Philanthropy Eva Rosenn said the award will go to an incoming visual and media arts student with demonstrated financial need. Students will not need to apply for the scholarship; instead, the college will automatically include it in the recipient's financial aid package.

Mueth—of East Hampton, New York—started the fundraiser on her birthday in January to raise money for Lucas' mother, Susan Flint of Braintree, Massachusetts after she read an emailed announcement from President M. Lee Pelton about Lucas Flint's death on Dec. 18. Lucas Flint was hit by a drunk driver on Dec. 15 while walking home from his job at the Laugh Boston Comedy Club, according to the Braintree Police Department.

See scholarship, page 2



VMA department creates location manager position

By Daniela Lobo-Rivera • p. 3

Homa Sarabi-Daunais created an online database for students to find filming locations. *William Bloxham / Beacon Correspondent*

EBONI drips gold for BLK Out fashion show

Riddhima Dave, *Beacon Correspondent*

Emerson's Black Organization with Natural Interest will drip gold at their second annual BLK Out Fashion Show on Feb. 15 in the Greene Theater.

Student models will walk down the runway in black-owned fashion brands, a student musician will perform, and representatives from other black student organizations at Boston colleges and universities will watch the event.

EBONI opened the show to the public for free on a first-come, first-serve basis. They asked everyone who plans to attend to fill out a Google form and request up to four tickets.

EBONI held their first fashion show in 2016. The student organization built on the success of their first show and held the BLK Out Fashion Show last year. They turned it into an annual event to celebrate Black History Month in February.

EBONI's theme this year is "Black Excellence" to commemorate its 50th anniversary. The theme for the show is Gold, according to EBONI President and senior Jonas Spencer.

"Our theme is going to be dripping gold, like honey," Spencer said. "[Black Excellence] has been our big theme for the year."

See EBONI, page 6

OPINION

False perceptions about sororities



SPORTS

Junior guard makes impact on defense



LIVING ARTS

"Tulips" memorializes late alumnus



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news

Eight director-level vacancies do not affect operations, college officials say

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Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion Sylvia Spears said in an email to the Beacon on Jan. 22 that the college's search committee held its first interview with an applicant and continues to review applications as they come in.

In an interview with the Beacon, Spears said the lack of a deputy Title IX coordinator has not interfered with the speed of investigations.

The Office of Housing and Residence Life is looking for an associate director of residence life after the former director, Seth Grue, transferred to the Office of Student Success, where he serves as an associate director, in September 2018.

Assistant Dean for Campus Life Elizabeth Ching-Bush said she took over Grue's role during the vacancy and allowed other people to take on more tasks. Ching-Bush said in an interview that now is the best time to fill the vacancy and hire the ideal candidate.

"This is the prime time to do it in our field—this is the cycle that works for us," Ching-Bush said. "There are a lot of searches going on across many campuses—all of our national conferences are happening. People are looking for jobs right now."

Ching-Bush said she hopes to hire a new director by May.

"It's a long process for us—we do many different things throughout our hiring process," Ching-Bush said. "We hope to have someone by the end of the semester so that they can start in June."

Former Associate Director of Housing Operations Seth Hodge left the college at the end of the fall 2018 semester. The department did not pursue efforts to hire a new director—instead they plan to hire a graduate student.

"We may not have somebody for this semester, but we may have someone this summer and there on out," Ching-Bush said. "It all depends on when we find an adequate candidate."

Former Campus Sustainability Manager Amy Elvidge resigned in July 2018, and the position remains vacant. Elvidge left the college to pursue a sustainability director for dining services position at Boston University, according to BU's website.

Director of Business Services Karen Dickin-

son said the search for a new campus sustainability manager is open and active. She said in an interview she does not see any impact on the college due to the vacancy.

"Everyone in campus services—Facilities and Business Services—we are all working together to try and fill in the gaps," Dickinson said.

Assistant Vice President of Facilities and Campus Services Duncan Pollock said the vacancy's biggest effect is on student engagement, specifically the Eco-Reps—a student group that promotes sustainability efforts at the college.

"We have people that can do the nuts and bolts of it—energy management and waste management—but we aren't getting the students engaged," Pollock said.

Last year there were eight Eco-Reps, and the plan this year was to decrease that number to three, but the three students either left to study abroad or left for another job, Pollock said. Members of Facilities Management are running the Emerson Food Cam, which the Eco-Reps used to operate.

Student Government Association Sustainability Commissioner Gianna Girona said the lack of Eco-Reps on campus concerns her.

"The Office of Sustainability was in charge of Eco-Reps, and they are not around anymore," Girona said. "They are so important because they are students leading the discussion about Emerson being sustainable and eco-friendly."

Pollock said the college sent an offer to a sustainability manager candidate from the West Coast before the new year.

"He accepted and then two weeks later said, 'Never mind.' We had the position filled, and the application closed," Pollock said.

Pollock said he opened the application for a second time.

"We have some good candidates that we are interviewing now," Pollock said. "We hope to have the position filled relatively quickly."

The college is also looking for a director of dining services, which Pollock said is a new position. The new position is funded by money that used to pay the salary for a property management position that no longer exists in Facilities and Campus Services.

"We need somebody that is directly from the food industry, preferably with higher education



Eight director-level positions at the college remain empty—the longest vacancy being one year. Jennifer Scully / Beacon Correspondent

background, to oversee [Bon Appetit] from Emerson's standpoint," Pollock said. "We felt that was a gap in the management of the contract."

Pollock said a local candidate accepted the job offer before 2019 but also declined a few weeks later. The application is now open for a second time, and Pollock said he and Associate Dean for Campus Life Erik Muurisepp are reviewing candidates' resumes.

Director of Academic Engagement Suzanne Hinton left the college, according to a Social Justice Center community update email on Jan. 30. The email did not state when Hinton resigned.

Spears said Hinton most likely will not pursue a career at another college.

"She simply decided one day that she had done what she could in her various roles—she tried to work really hard when she was here, and she did," Spears said. "She has many talents. She is a musician, she's an artist. My hope is that she is able to have more time to spend doing the things that bring her joy."

The search for a new director of academic engagement will not begin until after the spring 2019 semester because the college recently named a new executive director of the Elma Lewis Center for Civic Engagement, Learning,

and Research.

"As soon as the new executive director is situated—when she has enough background information to know what she thinks the Elma Lewis Center needs in that role—the search will start. The position might be tweaked—it might change a little bit depending of the strategic direction of the Elma Lewis Center," Spears said.

Executive Director of the Elma Lewis Center for Civic Engagement, Learning, and Research Tamera Marko will start working full-time after commencement in May since she is a faculty member.

The college posted an application for the director of alumni relations and engagement. The position connects alumni with the college in preparation for an alumni engagement campaign, according to the application. The department could not be reached for comment to provide further clarification.

An application for a director of project management position also remains posted online. The director would serve on the Information Technology leadership team. The department could not be reached for comment to provide further clarification.

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Emerson parent fundraises to memorialize student Lucas Flint



Susan Flint (left) chose to establish a \$1,000 scholarship in her son Lucas Flint's (right) memory for students entering visual and media arts. • Photo courtesy of Susan Flint

Continued from page 1

"The fact that [Mueth] raised so much money from people I don't even know is amazing—people [Lucas] didn't even know," Susan said in a phone interview from her home.

Susan Flint said she decided to use the money to create a remembrance for Lucas and worked with Mueth and Rosenn to bring the idea to life.

Mueth said in a phone interview she felt inspired while working with Susan Flint to create the scholarship.

"As the mother of an only child as well, watching this—it takes my breath away. I am a better person now for having met [Susan Flint]," Mueth said.

Mueth said she met with Susan Flint and Rosenn for lunch in Boston and debated several options to memorialize Lucas Flint at Emerson. They considered a paid internship at Emerson's radio station WERS, where Lucas volunteered; a scholarship for a student to attend the Emer-

son Los Angeles program, which Lucas planned on participating in; or for someone in the visual and media arts department, Lucas' major while at Emerson.

"Kate asked if we could have a couple of options to present to Susan and let Susan choose," Rosenn said in an interview. "I thought that was a really lovely idea."

"The fact that [Mueth] raised so much money from people I don't even know is amazing."

- Susan Flint

Susan Flint decided on a \$1,000-per-year scholarship to ensure the funds Mueth raised would last four years.

"I know a thousand dollars would have changed my world, had Lucas received a thou-

sand-dollar scholarship," Susan Flint said. "That's a big help, that's a make-or-break for people."

Mueth said she will commit to fundraise for the award every year to ensure its longevity.

"As the mother of an only child as well, watching this—it takes my breath away."

- Kate Mueth

"I felt it was more important right now that [the scholarship] had a life going forward than have it be a big chunk of money and have to work to try and see if we can get it happening again next year," Mueth said. "I wanted to give it a life of four years."

Rosenn said as long as the scholarship retains funding through fundraising, the school can continue to offer it to incoming students, whether or not the amount increases or decreases with time.

In addition to the scholarship, Susan Flint said WERS will hang a plaque in their studio to honor Lucas Flint, a long-time volunteer at the station. Susan Flint said she plans to volunteer this year for the WERS fundraising drive her son worked on.

Susan Flint said she also hopes to memorialize Lucas Flint with a nameplate on a seat at the Brattle Theatre in Cambridge, where he was a long-time member. She had several other plans to memorialize her son but said many of her ideas are still in the works.

President M. Lee Pelton and newly appointed Campus Chaplain Rev. Julie Avis Rogers visited Susan Flint at her home in early February to deliver Lucas Flint's framed acceptance letter to the Emerson Los Angeles program.

"I only wish he got the letter before this all happened," Susan Flint said. "And I hope he knows. I can only think he knows. But I can't say anything more than I'm so proud."

Susan Flint said she will be working with Rogers to organize a celebration of life for Lucas at Emerson after midterm exams in February.

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Corrections and Clarifications

The Feb. 12 article, "College Republicans chapter expands conservative voice on campus," incorrectly quoted Student Government Association Class of 2022 Senator Brady Baca. In his quotes, Baca was referring to Turning Point USA, not the Emerson College Republicans. The article has since been updated to reflect his thoughts on the College Republicans.

The Feb. 7 article, "Turning Point USA creates space for conservative views on campus," stated that junior Holden Bender-Bernstein wanted to treat Turning Point USA in a "respectful yet assertive way." The article has been updated to reflect that Bender-Bernstein "wants to deal with the group in an assertive way."

VMA department hires new location coordinator

Daniela Lobo-Rivera, *Beacon Correspondent*

The Visual and Media Arts Department hired a location coordinator in fall 2018 to help students with location scouting and filming permits.

Homa Sarabi-Daunais, the new VMA location coordinator, said her position provides students with the support they need during big productions.

"[The students] do big projects that are really amazing and go beyond the expectation of the student filmmaker," Sarabi-Daunais said in an interview. "Location scouting is a very important part of a production, and students need advice with that most of the time."

Director of Production and Safety Lenny Manzo said the VMA Department worked to find a location coordinator for the past two years. He said many safety concerns arise when students film outside of campus. These concerns may include poor use of equipment, late-night shoots outdoors, fires, or use of dangerous props.

Sarabi-Daunais visited production classes at the beginning of the spring semester to talk to students about her role and the location of her office at 918A in the Ansin building.

"Mostly my work focuses on thesis projects, [Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts students], but it does not limit to those. Every student can reach out to me, and we can figure out how I can be helpful for their production," Sarabi-Daunais said.

Sarabi-Daunais plans to create an online database of locations the VMA Department recommends to students or resources that students have used before to help people find locations more easily.

Senior Nicolas Thilo-McGovern, deputy general manager of Emerson Independent Vid-

eo, said a location coordinator is vital for anyone working on EIV productions.

"I was very excited when I found out the school was doing this, because right now we're producing 24 productions," Thilo-McGovern said in an interview. "A lot of those productions are field-oriented and require getting permits for very specific locations."

Thilo-McGovern said a location coordinator at the college mimics professional production industries, which have location managers and scouts.

"Any way that Emerson students can get a more realistic, real-world experience as a producer, I think it is super great and a really good resource," Thilo-McGovern said.

Sarabi-Daunais worked on a weekly show at

WBUR as a radio producer and editor for six months in 2018. She also worked in the MasArt film department between 2015 and 2017 and in AIESEC—an international, student-run, non-governmental organization—from 2013 to 2015.

"The interesting thing about this position is that not so many colleges or institutions have something called 'location coordinator,'" Sarabi-Daunais said. "So, this is something unique about Emerson having this position and a resource students should take advantage of."

Sarabi-Daunais said she hopes students will have better filming experiences as more of them discuss the early stages of production with her.

"If [students] focus more on their pre-production, they will have a better shoot experience," Sarabi-Daunais said. "As they grow in their careers and gain more experience, they will keep hearing people emphasizing pre-production."

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College Republicans chapter expands conservative voice on campus



Sophomore Allison Payne started the second group for conservative thought on campus. *Madison Goldberg / Beacon Correspondent*

Sydney Richelieu, *Beacon Correspondent*

Sophomore Allison Payne started an Emerson chapter of College Republicans, a national group, at the beginning of the spring 2019 semester to give representation to conservative students on campus.

Two conservative organizations, Emerson College Republicans and Turning Point USA, debuted on campus during the 2018-2019 aca-

demical year. Sophomore Camilo Vilaplana created an Emerson chapter of Turning Point USA in fall 2018.

Payne said the Emerson College Republicans' agenda focuses on creating a space for people with conservative views on campus, and she hopes to get the club involved in local government at the Massachusetts State House. Seven members attended the first meeting on Feb. 5.

"Honestly, it's hard to be a Republican at Em-

erson College," Payne said.

Payne said she wants to encourage conservative students to use their voice to make change. However, the group does not plan to engage in many events on campus, because Payne said she understands that Emerson is a liberal-leaning school.

"I personally pull back from sharing my political views in class," Payne said. "I don't want to have any backlash from people in that setting because that creates a hostile environment for me."

Payne said she received both resistance and support when she began posting about creating a College Republicans chapter on Facebook.

"I was actually very shocked at how quickly word got around," Payne said. "People I'd never seen before recognized me as the girl that started the Republican club on campus."

Student Government Association Class of 2022 Senator Brady Baca said he believes the majority of his freshman constituency holds a negative opinion of Republican student organizations.

"There are a lot of my constituents who strongly disapprove of these groups, do not like their presence on campus, and do not want to see the values that they've come to know and appreciate from Emerson—values of diversity, inclusion, and tolerance of groups who are otherwise marginalized from American society—be threatened," he said.

Baca said he recalled seeing students tear down Turning Point USA advertisements in the Walker Building in past months. Payne said she thinks students should have a platform to share their views.

"In any situation, it's important to have an environment where people can share their views, but I just don't think that's how Emerson is right now," Payne said.

Payne created the group in fall 2018 after completing an internship with former United States Senate candidate Karin Housley, a Republican, in Minnesota last summer. She said she learned about the University of Minnesota College Republicans and decided to start a chapter at Emerson.

"I probably decided in like five seconds that I was going to do it and just ran with it," Payne said.

Professor Tylor Orme teaches a class on conservative economic thought called *The Right Stuff: Origins of Conservative Thought*. Orme teaches four other economics classes at the college and said he doesn't necessarily see a divide between Democrats and Republicans in his classes.

He said he recognizes that the college's location in Boston, Massachusetts, a liberal city in a relatively blue state, offers a demographic bias, meaning the majority of the student population is likely to have liberal views.

"The college is predominantly Democrat or at least liberal-minded, but I don't see, in many cases, an intentional ideological bias," Orme said in an interview. "I think that there are a lot of professors that mean well and try to approach things from a neutral angle, but it's impossible to teach in a way that's completely unbiased."

Orme said it's important to have a Republican club on campus and foster conversation between Democratic and Republican students.

"I think it's really important to be able to recognize that we can interact with each other in a productive way," Orme said.

Payne said she planned the next club meeting for Feb. 13 at 8 p.m.

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ELA welcomes associate dean of student life

Juliet Norman, *Beacon Correspondent*

Emerson Los Angeles appointed Tim Chang as the new campus associate dean of student life and administration after a two-month search.

ELA Vice President and Executive Director Allison Sampson announced the new hire on Feb. 1 in an Emerson Today article. Chang will coordinate student life, information technology infrastructure, programming, and facilities on campus. Chang officially started on Feb. 4.

In the coming weeks, the associate dean will focus on the planning and management of programming and facilities at the ELA Campus Center according to student needs, Sampson said in a phone interview.

Sampson temporarily filled the position when Joyce Williams, the previous associate dean of student life and administration, left to take an associate vice president of financial services position at California State University.

Sampson took over many of the financial responsibilities at ELA, and the position was renamed from the former chief of financial affairs and operating officer. The role now focuses more on student life.

"We all agreed that the role involves everything that deals with the student experience, so associate dean of student life was a better title," Sampson said.

The search for the new associate dean spanned nationwide with roughly 110 applicants and lasted through the end of the school's winter break, Sampson said. Four finalists were interviewed by the search committee on Jan. 2, and Chang was hired a week later.

Sampson and the search committee co-chair James Hoppe, dean of student life at the Boston campus, selected Chang because of his background with higher education and student services.

"There was such a large applicant pool for us this year—it made it challenging," Hoppe said. "With his experience and engagement, Tim was a breath of fresh air."

Before coming to Emerson, Chang worked for two and a half years as the associate dean for business services at Loyola Marymount University in LA. He oversaw customer service, human resources, facilities planning, information technology, enrollment management, and finances for the university's School of Education.

Chang holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Bradley University and a master's degree in higher education from Columbia University.

"Never have I had the opportunity to work with students from a creative background," Chang said. "I'm learning a lot more about how important the arts are to people's development."

While working at Loyola Marymount, Chang attended both the faculty orientation and the student orientation at the ELA campus two weeks prior to his official start date.

"He's hitting the ground running—he'll be really successful. Everyone was excited in Boston and here in LA," Sampson said. "There's a lot of support behind him, and everyone is confident about him taking us all to the next level."

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"Honestly, it's hard to be a Republican at Emerson College."

- Allison Payne

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.

Monday, Feb. 4

An Emerson College Police Department officer driving an ECPD cruiser noticed a fight transpiring in the Boylston Place Alley. The incident ended before the officer could turn the cruiser around, and three individuals fled in the direction of Boston Common. None of the involved parties had an affiliation to the college.

ECPD and the Boston Fire Department responded to a fire alarm at the loading dock area of the Semel Theater. The alarm went off because of a malfunction with the outside sprinkler system.

Wednesday, Feb. 6

An ECPD officer on patrol noticed the front door to the Professional Studies Building was open. ECPD secured the area and Facilities Management inspected and repaired the door.

Thursday, Feb. 7

The Office of Housing and Residence Life confiscated drug paraphernalia containing cannabis in the Piano Row residence hall and turned it over to ECPD.

OHRL turned over cannabis and smoking paraphernalia that was found in the 2 Boylston Place residence hall, to ECPD.

editorial

Valentine's Day is about more than romance

At issue: The impact of Valentine's Day

Our take: Show love to everyone in your life

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.

As we celebrate Valentine's Day, we should remind ourselves of the importance of compassion in a world flooded with partisan disdain and other political, economic, and social issues. Emerson's population extends far beyond its students. It includes anyone who spends nearly every day on our three-block campus. This Valentine's Day, it's imperative that we all take a moment out of our busy lives to show love and kindness to everyone on campus, including ourselves.

We should not solely dedicate Valentine's Day to romantic relationships, but rather to the empathy, compassion, and admiration we feel for those who have a positive impact on our lives. Remember the T conductors, security guards, Dining Center workers, faculty, staff, and family members who all hold vital roles in our day-to-day activities. Write a thank you note to your professor, spend time talking to the staff, or call your parents to catch up and tell them you love them. These actions could make someone's Valentine's Day mean so much more.

It's also important to acknowledge the cap-

italist nature of this holiday and the potential to spark habits of gratitude that could stick around. In 2018, CNN projected that Valentine's Day consumers spent \$19.6 billion on gifts in

"Many people can feel lonely or left out during a day that idealizes a flowery combination of love, companionship, and romance."

the U.S. So instead of purchasing chocolate and a cheesy card from CVS Pharmacy, we can perform meaningful acts of kindness for a significant other, friend, or stranger. We can find other ways to show our love that don't feed into the system of capitalism—we shouldn't put a price on a feeling.

Many people can feel lonely or left out during a day that idealizes a flowery combination of love, companionship, and romance. A recent University of Chicago study found that negative thoughts about our interpersonal relationships are one of the biggest causes of loneliness. It's undeniable that a holiday that encourages puppy love and public displays of affection can exacerbate this awareness of how alone we may feel. Connecting with people around us on this important day, despite our busy schedule, can help all of us feel better.

But these acts of love and kindness toward ourselves and others should go beyond special occasions and holidays. Remember the people you interact with everyday have lives of their own outside Emerson. Our appreciation and acknowledgment for their work shouldn't just be expressed on Valentine's Day—it should be expressed every day.

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.

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"For off-campus students, it helps to have text alerts during snow days."



opinion

Why joining a sorority is not 'paying for friends'



Aside from the myth of “paying for friends,” critics also misconstrue sororities as being exclusive. • Illustration by Ally Rzesza / Beacon Staff

Megan Ellis
 Ellis is a sophomore marketing major,
 Beacon columnist,
 & Sigma Pi Theta Fundraising Chair.

I decided to join Sigma Pi Theta, a social sorority, during my first semester at Emerson. Before returning home for winter break, I finished the new member education process and couldn't wait to share with my family and friends what I had been up to.

The new member education, regardless of the fraternity and sorority, requires both hard work and dedication and allows newcomers to grow personally. Many students describe this typically secret process as a “fifth class” because new members spend weeks learning the values and history of their respective organization. After undergoing the process throughout my first semester, I was beyond excited for the

sisterhood to induct me.

Contrary to my excitement, my brother and sister—both in their twenties—were quick to judge me. They made comments such as, “Oh, you're a sorority girl now?” and, “You know you're just paying for friends, right?” Many of my friends also opposed my choice to join a fraternity or sorority.

These fallacies—that I paid for friends and would soon mold into a stereotypical “sorority girl”—not only reduced my excitement for joining a sisterhood but completely discredited the true purpose of the organization of which I was so excited to be a new member.

“Aside from the myth of 'paying for friends,' critics also misconstrue sororities as being exclusive.”

Because of this, my perception of fraternity and sorority life at Emerson started to shift.

The dues that active sorority members must pay the organization are not, in fact, used to make friends, but instead go toward philanthropic efforts and social events. Many sororities at Emerson use their time to plan fundraising events, volunteer, spread awareness, and make meaningful contributions for causes the members are passionate about.

Sigma Pi Theta spends all of March—Women's History Month—raising money for women's charities such as On The Rise, Inc. and Rosie's Place, which are both homeless shelters for women. The sorority also hosts campus-wide events, such as a women's comedy night, a photoshoot recreating important women in history, and sex and health workshops to empower femininity. Kappa Gamma Chi, a professional sorority at Emerson, also hosts an annual Emerald Empowerment week with fundraisers and events to fight sexual and domestic violence—last year they raised around \$4,500 for survivors of abuse or assault.

Aside from the myth of “paying for friends,” critics also misconstrue sororities as being exclusive. Traditionally, female-oriented groups at Emerson work to have a more inclusive environment. Many sororities expanded their membership qualifications to include anyone

who identifies as a woman, femme, or non-binary. Many sororities on Emerson's campus, such as the ones mentioned, have even extended their constitutions to include gender-neutral language.

Other stigmas—whether they derive from chapters at other colleges or pop culture—frame sororities as mere cliques. Some assume we are a group of mean girls. Fraternity and sorority life allows men and women to feel extremely empowered by their peers and more comfortable with their own identities. Joining a supportive environment

and simply making these genuine connections with others allows people to find comfort within themselves and their community. Many of my peers in sisterhoods expressed feeling more confident in creating female friendships, trying new things, changing majors, and accepting their sexualities after joining a sorority.

Fraternities and sororities are more than just social groups—they allow students to feel more comfortable with themselves and give back to the community in return. When we think about sororities and the concept of “paying to have friends,” we must challenge ourselves to think a little bit differently. In the end, what's so bad about a group of women supporting and empowering each other?

Visual Managing Editor Kyle Bray and Copy Managing Editor Monika Davis did not edit this article due to a conflict of interest.

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One year after Parkland: How to love on a day of hate

Robbie Shinder
 Shinder is a freshman
 visual and media arts major &
 Beacon correspondent.

My grandfather sent me a card every Valentine's Day, but he always crossed out “Valentine's” and wrote “LOVE” instead. So, my card on Feb. 14 always read “Happy LOVE Day.” Every year Feb. 14 represents a day of love, but this year, too many people will not want to celebrate love. Instead, they will be mourning the hate of Feb. 14, 2018—when a gunman entered Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida and killed 17 people who were loved by so many.

I live in Boca Raton, a town just 20 minutes north of Parkland. I attended school only five miles away from Stoneman Douglas. On Feb. 14, 2018, I was a senior in high school rehearsing our school's production of “Beauty and the Beast” when suddenly everyone's phones started buzzing with notifications. Snapchat stories of gunshots, blood, and people running were posted from inside Stoneman Douglas High School. Rumors about the tragedy spread rapidly on social media until the first news reports came out and confirmed numerous fatalities.

Those first reports were what no one wanted to hear—that several died in a school shooting at Stoneman Douglas. We struggled to continue our rehearsal that afternoon but everyone stayed glued to their phones and the television. Everyone knew someone who went to Stoneman Douglas.

I played in a soccer league throughout high school and many of my teammates attended Stoneman Douglas. As I waited to learn more details about the shooting, I didn't know if I would ever see my friends again. Eventually, I received texts that they were safe, but too many of their classmates and friends were not.

By the end of the day, the number 17 was on every news screen in the U.S. On that day of love, 17 innocent lives were taken. Not long after, the names of the victims were released. I knew that this day, Feb. 14, would never be the same for



Shortly after the tragedy, there were outpourings of love from around the world, including a nationwide movement against gun violence. • Illustration by Ally Rzesza / Beacon Staff

me, my family, my community, my state, or even my country ever again.

So how can we try to love again on a day marked so violently by hate? Shortly after the tragedy, there were outpourings of love from around the world—including a nationwide movement against gun violence. Love must not cease to exist after incidents like this because love does not despair—love makes us strong. Love gives us the hope that change is possible. Love gives us the courage to act. Love allows us to change the script. We must remember that love is a verb and to love means to do something.

“We must remember that love is a verb and to love means to do something.”

At Emerson, we live in the heart of one of the greatest cities in the country. There are many opportunities to show how much we can love, including the best way to show it—casting your vote. Vote for who you believe in, and vote for what you believe needs to change.

Your voice is your vote. Take action by participating in marches, rallies, and walkouts. Stand up for those who have been affected by these senseless tragedies and show that you

love them.

This year on Valentine's Day, I will not mourn or succumb to hate, instead I will spread love to

all of those around me. We must love the victim's families, the students of Stoneman Douglas High School, and everyone who was affected. We must say their names and remember the love they brought to so many lives.

Alyssa Alhadeff, 14. Scott Beigel, 35. Martin Duque, 14. Nicholas Dworet, 17. Aaron Feis, 37. Jaime Guttenberg, 14. Chris Hixon, 49. Luke Hoyer, 15. Cara Loughran, 14. Gina Montalto, 14. Joaquin Oliver, 17. Alaina Petty, 14. Meadow Pollack, 18. Helena Ramsay, 17. Alex Schachter, 14. Carmen Schentrup, 16. Peter Wang, 15.

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living arts

“Captain Jack” exposes dangers of waste and pollution in China

Katie Redefers, *Beacon Staff*

In a small village outside of Chongqing, China, freshman Jack Liu stood surrounded by garbage. The trash polluted a river in the village, and Liu decided to create the documentary short film “Junk Town” in 2017 to show the dangers the residents faced.

“Junk Town” is a 15-minute short film that Liu, a visual and media arts major, created for China Thinks Big, a high school research and innovation competition run by the Harvard College Association for U.S.-China Relations. Liu—known by most at Emerson as “Captain Jack” based off of a Billy Joel song—said he created the film to bring attention to how improper trash disposal methods can harm the environment.

“I hope the documentary makes an impact in the future and makes people think about how they dispose of junk before they throw it away,” Liu said. “I want it to make people think about in their everyday life when they dispose of their junk, ‘Can I use this junk for other purposes?’ or ‘Can I organize everything first?’”

On March 8, 2017, Liu posted the finished video on Youku, a Chinese video-sharing website. After he posted the video, Liu went to an environmental protection department run by the Chinese government in Chongqing to try to find a solution to the trash-disposal problem. Liu said the department staff member he spoke to was upset with the creation of the film after he showed him the video.

“I showed the film to him, and he was upset because he didn’t want people to see the film,” Liu said. “He asked me for the name of my school, and he called my school another day. My school asked me to take the film down.”

Liu said his high school threatened to expel him if he didn’t take the video down, but he kept it up anyway. Despite these threats, Liu said his school did not expel him.

The filming for “Junk Town” started in winter of 2017 after Liu interviewed trash disposal employees in Chongqing to find out more about where trash was being disposed. Liu conducted the interviews in Mandarin and added English subtitles. In the interviews, he discovered the location of a trash disposal site polluting a small village approximately 40 minutes outside of Chongqing, which inspired him to name the film “Junk Town.”

It took two months for Liu to film and edit the video for the competition. In the short film,

Liu edits together shots of the trash dumped by waste companies in forests and rivers nearby people’s homes. He also tested the river in the village and found high levels of bacteria in the water that residents use to clean their clothes. Liu tested the water with a water electrolyzer he purchased that checks levels of bacteria and viruses.

Soon after his high school threatened to expel him, Liu received an invitation over the phone from the environmental department to visit one of their factories with new environmental restoration technology. Liu said at the time he felt scared when the government reached out to him.

When Liu visited the environmental department’s factory, they showed him new devices they started developing to treat the polluted river, so that residents in the area would not be exposed to contaminated water.

“When I got a call from the department asking me to visit them, I was nervous. But they showed me the factory, and it was actually pretty cool,” Liu said.

Freshman journalism major Miles Schuman worked with Liu on previous film projects and said “Junk Town” testifies to Liu’s imagination as a filmmaker.

“Just thinking about American VMA majors, I don’t think any of them are going out there

thinking, ‘Oh let me do a story on the trash around here.’ No one else is thinking that way,” Schuman said.

At the end of “Junk Town,” Liu leaves viewers with a message on a black screen in both Mandarin and English: “The beauty of the Earth is being swallowed up by the junk. The environment can only be saved by our own action.”

“Junk Town” did not end up placing in the China Thinks Big film competition. Liu said he believes this is attributed to the fact that he worked on “Junk Town” by himself as opposed to the other contestants who worked in teams. Despite this, Liu said in the future he wants to make more documentary films.

“I think documentaries are one of the main styles of films I want to do in the future,” Liu said. “I want to make 30-minute or one-hour-long films next.”

In the short time Liu’s been at Emerson, he’s focused on creating stop motion films and skating videos. In Liu’s film “A Charlie Brown Christmas” that he created for a final project last semester, he wrote and directed the narrative of a skater at Emerson who struggled with prescription drug abuse and considered dropping out of college.

Freshman Maxwell Chadran, who acted in “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” said Liu’s dedication while working on the film impressed him.

“Not only does he make me inspired, he forces me to be inspired,” Chadran said. “When I was working with him, I was forced to push myself to be at his level.”

Schuman, who narrated “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” said he thinks Liu’s style of filmmaking puts him above the level of most VMA students at Emerson.

“I’ve heard so many VMA students say that he is the most talented VMA major that they’ve met, and VMA is such a competitive major,” Schuman said. “I think wherever he finds himself, he’ll make it.”

Liu said he creates films like “Junk Town” to bring attention to issues important to him, such as proper trash disposal.

“I did this documentary because I want to help people and let more people see this problem,” Liu said. “A lot of people in China don’t have the awareness of how to dispose of junk, so it causes a lot of problems for people who work in the junk disposal industry.”



Freshman Jack Liu’s 15-minute short film “Junk Town” started as a high school competition entry and outraged school and government officials. *Madison Goldberg / Beacon Correspondent*

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EBONI showcases black creators and student models at BLK Out

Continued from page 1

Spencer said EBONI plans to use this show to promote black fashion designers, clothing labels, and art around Boston. He said he also wants to provide a casual environment for aspiring models to gain walking experience.

“It is mostly to support blackness because it is often forgotten and put to the side when [black artists] have so many things to offer,” Spencer said.

Jillian Towson, a freshman walking in the show, said the event will showcase primarily street-style clothing.

“I have done semi-[professional] modeling,” Towson said. “This seems more relaxed. You don’t have to do the industry-level walk—you can just have fun with it. It’s really low-pressure.”

Spencer said EBONI started preparing for the show in late November 2018 when they selected the final 30 models from the 45 who auditioned.

Freshman and model Jay Osgood said she valued the inclusive nature of the show.

“They were really inclusive and not very picky. Most people who auditioned were people of color,” Osgood said. “They were very inclusive in this as long as you feel confident walking.”

This year the show will debut the new clothing line from local designer and Northeastern University junior Lans Powell. Spencer said EBONI expanded the number of designers who display their work in the show from one to three this year. Other designers include Northeastern junior Javon Martin and Berklee College of Music graduate Amber Ais ‘18.

EBONI also added a jewelry line by Brooklyn-based artist Bianca Abreu-Jones and booked local makeup artist Mercy Mungai for the show.



Models practice their struts at rehearsals for the 2018 BLK Out Fashion Show—this year’s fashion show theme is Gold. • *Courtesy of EBONI*

In addition to hosting the show in a larger theater and hiring more models, EBONI expanded their model search to encompass other universities in Boston this year.

“This year we are inviting models from outside Emerson,” Spencer said. “We have people from Northeastern, [Simmons College], and Berklee to broaden the community for black students in Boston.”

Sophomore Naomi Jones will choreograph the show and Ais will sing between each clothing line showcase. The playlist for the walk will mostly include rhythm and blues, hip-hop, and Caribbean tunes.

Spencer said the BLK Out Fashion Show offers an opportunity for people to learn about black talent in Boston.

“I want to reach out, for the most part, to the

black students on campus,” Spencer said. “I also want to reach out to the people who want to know about black fashion, black clothing labels, and black art.”

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Alum remember Adam James McCarthy with “Tulips” film

Erin Nolan, *Beacon Correspondent*

Jordan Cipolla '18 and Adam James McCarthy '17 shared matching tattoos—stick and pokes done by Cipolla's ex-girlfriend. The design depicted a tulip inside of a Bulleit Bourbon bottle next to a billiard ball. The billiard ball was a representation of the hours they spent playing pool together while at Emerson, while the tulip was an homage to their short film “Tulips.”

McCarthy and Cipolla started writing “Tulips” three years ago at Emerson. Over a two-year span, they developed the script into an ab-

surdist plot about a young man mourning the loss of his late girlfriend. He then sees another man at the foot of his beloved's grave.

But on Feb. 16, 2018, McCarthy died after taking a Xanax cut with fentanyl. McCarthy had been taking Xanax—an anti-anxiety medication—prescribed by a doctor for years, according to Cipolla.

“One of the last conversations we had was going through the script and implementing some jokes. We were just laughing a bunch. I am so thankful for it now,” Cipolla said in a video call. “Then [McCarthy] passed away. That took a big

chunk out of our hearts honestly. It totally took the winds out of our sails.”

Cipolla, who was a visual and media arts major, brought the seedling of the idea for “Tulips” to McCarthy, a writing, literature and publishing major, after a discussion about absurdism inspired him in his Directing Image and Sound class taught by Professor Ziad Hamzeh.

Cipolla said McCarthy was immediately interested. Ryan Bergeron '18 was also involved in the project from the beginning as a cinematographer. Katya Alexander '19 joined the crew as a producer in early 2018.

Cipolla said McCarthy's death put the completion of “Tulips” on hold for a while.

“About four months after [McCarthy died], I was like, ‘I want to do it. I want to make ‘Tulips.’ I'm bringing this thing to life,’” Cipolla said. “But it was still so soon. It's still way, way, way too soon. We had other stuff going.”

The time wasn't right, and they could not dedicate enough time to “Tulips,” Cipolla and Alexander said. In the months following McCarthy's death, the production company Alexander founded and now runs with Cipolla, CQ Studios, was in the midst of completing multiple music videos and their first feature-length documentary.

Toward the end of fall 2018, Bergeron, Alexander, and Cipolla began discussing the possibility of returning to “Tulips.” Alexander and Cipolla said they all agreed that it was finally time to bring McCarthy's words to life.

The group began to recruit crew members, search for filming locations, and find actors. They launched a Kickstarter which garnered support from 40 backers and raised \$7,089. Alexander said the money raised went predominantly toward acquiring permits, reimbursing their Kickstarter video, and paying for locations, insurance, and crew members.

“The film [has been] pretty expensive to make,” Alexander said. “It ended up costing maybe a bit more than what we raised on the Kickstarter.”

Alexander and Cipolla said working on the set of “Tulips” was a unique experience where everyone felt passionately about the project.

“This specific project felt very different,” Alexander said. “Pretty much everyone on the film either loves [Cipolla] more than anything in the

world or knew [McCarthy].”

Three years in the making, “Tulips” is set to be released this spring.

Cipolla and Alexander said they are most looking forward to sharing “Tulips” with McCarthy's friends and family.

“The piece itself is fun and lighthearted, which really is a testament to how he was and our friendship,” Cipolla said.

Cipolla dedicates a lot of time paying tribute to McCarthy's memory. Cipolla said his personal project in the coming months is to edit, transcribe, and attempt to get the novel McCarthy wrote during his last six months published. The novel is about McCarthy's happiness and documents his thoughts while living with a mood disorder.

“It was like a book, but it was essentially a diary about his happiness—how he got happiness when, where he wasn't happy and why, because he had mood disorders,” Cipolla said. “It's like a three-hour long read all the way through. I think his voice deserves to be heard.”

Cipolla also created a website which showcases McCarthy's prose, poetry, and music. The homepage features a video created by Cipolla and Bergeron, which follows them on a cross-country road trip as they plaster McCarthy's writing on walls along the way.

The site accepts donations to the Adam James McCarthy Scholarship Fund, which is devoted to furthering education to deserving young students, according to the website.

“[McCarthy] was aware of what really matters, whereas most people are sick to their stomachs scrolling for hours, all caught up in other people's shit, whereas he just was talking to people and understanding and learning and seeing a bunch of shit that nobody else sees anymore,” Cipolla said.

Cipolla said he thinks this is why McCarthy lacked a television, Netflix account, and a smartphone.

“He just didn't want to waste time. That was his big thing,” Cipolla said. “I miss him.”



Jordan Cipolla '18 (right) brought his late friend, Adam James McCarthy's '17 (left), vision to life by finishing their collaborative short film “Tulips.” • Courtesy of Jordan Cipolla

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Alumna's horror novel adapted for Netflix film

Taina Millsap, *Beacon Correspondent*

Eva Konstantopoulos' '05 dream came true last year when Netflix released her fictional story “Malevolent” into a film, eight years after the project started.

The horror film, adapted from Konstantopoulos' book “Hush,” tells the story of two siblings tricking people into thinking they have paranormal activity in their homes, only to take advantage of them by promising help in exchange for money. The two encounter trouble once they enter an actual haunted house.

The Los Angeles-based writer was inspired to write the story after hearing an anecdote about children taking advantage of elderly people.

“It's kind of a revenge story in that sense, like what if these kids got their comeuppance while taking advantage of these people?” Konstantopoulos said in a phone interview. “It stemmed from that, and I went from there.”

Konstantopoulos—a media studies and writing, literature and publishing double major—worked at the self-publishing company Author Solutions, LLC in 2011, when she began crafting the story “Hush.” Production company Sigma Films picked up the piece in 2012, developed the script into a film, and shot it in Scotland.

“I've always really loved stories, especially genre stories, stories that are grounded in reality but are slightly off or tilted. It's how I process the world, or hard or complicated situations,” Konstantopoulos said. “I also like to sort of analyze and figure out what makes people tick—what I've always done and hopefully what I will keep doing.”

Netflix bought the film from Sigma Films and released it on Oct. 5, 2018. Konstantopoulos said this allowed the story to quickly reach a bigger audience.

Konstantopoulos was also excited to experience the filming process in Scotland after finishing the script.

“I was very happy with the actors they picked—I thought they were wonderful,” Kon-

stantopoulos said. “It was a great experience to go there and see the built sets based on stuff you've imagined in your brain.”

Ben Lloyd-Hughes from “Divergent” and Florence Pugh from Netflix's new historical action drama “Outlaw King” play the two main characters, who are siblings.

“I was really excited to see the finished product,” Konstantopoulos said. “There are a lot of stories that don't find a home when you're a writer. Sometimes you develop stories, and it doesn't move forward. It was really cool to see this story find a home on Netflix where people can watch it—it's a dream come true.”

Film producer Danny Sherman said he felt excited about the reach the story would receive from its distribution on such a large platform.

“I felt really good about it when it was done,” Sherman said in a phone interview. “We made it without distribution and sold it to Netflix, and it was the perfect pairing.”

Sigma Films originally hired Ben Ketai as the screenwriter. Ketai later left due to personal projects, Konstantopoulos said. The production company, based in Glasgow, Scotland, decided to turn to Konstantopoulos for the rest of the screenplay.

“It was cool because they had Ketai write the first draft and then they let me revise it,” Konstantopoulos said. “When you're writing, you have to take notes, and it's a more collaborative process. You can't be too precious about the words. Go along for the ride, and it makes the story better in the long run.”

Sherman and Konstantopoulos both said they enjoyed filming “Malevolent” in Scotland.

Konstantopoulos hopes to develop a new horror feature that would take place in Greece. As a Greek-American, Konstantopoulos wanted to craft a story that takes place in Greece for a long time.

Karen Mae Black '07 and Konstantopoulos met during their time at Emerson Los Angeles. Konstantopoulos said Black is one of her biggest supporters. Black said the two bonded right away and started to work together and read



Alumna Eva Konstantopoulos co-wrote the script of “Malevolent,” a new Netflix horror film based on her book *Hush*. • Courtesy of Eva Konstantopoulos

each other's work throughout the years, acting as each other's editors.

“We are really good at bouncing ideas off of each other—shortly after we met, we decided to write some things together,” Black said in a phone interview. “We became writing partners on a couple of projects and just kept on supporting each other.”

The pair worked together on the short film “Re/collection,” released in 2017. The script won the One Potato Short Screenplay Grant of \$5,000 at the 2016 Sun Valley Film Festival, which went toward making the production possible.

Black said she admires Konstantopoulos' commitment to write stories that hold truth

to what impressions her, despite the industry's conventions.

Genre works such as horror and suspense are usually written by men, Black said. Companies expect women in the industry to write “chick flicks” and romances, Black said, but Konstantopoulos had a different vision for her career.

“Eva was writing genre pieces before this new wave of women finally broke into this industry,” Black said. “She was breaking those barriers despite what the industry was saying women should be writing.”

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sports

RECENT RESULTS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Emerson 61 — WPI 55, Feb. 13

MEN'S BASKETBALL: Babson 90 — Emerson 69, Feb. 13

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Emerson 67 — Clark 65, Feb. 9

MEN'S BASKETBALL: Emerson 73 — WPI 70, Feb. 9

Busch, Boyle honored before senior day victory



Senior Natalie Busch (center) averages 6.5 points and 3.2 rebounds per game this season.
Maia Sperber / Beacon Staff



Senior Charlie Boyle scored her 1,000th point in a game against Mount Holyoke this season.
Maia Sperber / Beacon Staff

Andrew Lin and Lara Hill, *Beacon Staff*

The women's basketball team honored forward Charlie Boyle and guard Natalie Busch on senior day and extended the Lions' five-game winning streak with a 61-55 victory against Worcester Polytechnic Institute on Wednesday night.

Prior to tipoff, the two seniors took to the court with both their family members and head coach Bill Gould to take pictures while an announcer detailed their accomplishments on the team. As Boyle and Busch received introductions into the starting lineup, prolonged cheers from the home crowd followed.

Boyle—a visual and media arts major from Scotts Valley, California—immediately established herself as an integral part of the team by averaging 12.4 points in her first season. In over 92 games played, she averaged 12.2 points and 4.9 rebounds on a 52.1 percent shooting from

the field. On Jan. 12, Boyle became the fifth woman in Emerson basketball history to pass the 1,000 point milestone.

Busch—a visual and media arts major and former Beacon editor from Weybridge, England—played in a total of 90 games and averaged 6.8 points, 2.7 rebounds, and 2.2 assists on a 36.8 percent shooting from the field.

The Lions began the game by overwhelming WPI with four steals and ended the first quarter with a 12-5 lead. Emerson continued to outscore WPI in the second quarter by making seven of their 13 field goal attempts before leading 27-19 at halftime.

The Engineers took their first lead of the game with an 11-2 run to start the second half. Emerson persevered and regained the lead 13 seconds later with a layup by Boyle. The third quarter had a total of five lead changes and the game tied 41-41 at the start of the fourth.

Both teams struggled to score at the start of

the fourth quarter. After falling behind, Emerson regained the lead with a three-pointer from junior guard Natalie Clydesdale and a jump shot from Boyle. The Lions held the lead for the rest of the game and won 61-55.

Boyle, who recorded a game-high 18 points, said senior day signaled an end to her playing career.

"[Basketball] is four years of your life and, for me, this is the end of basketball," Boyle said. "I've played basketball since the beginning of elementary school. This is a really great way to say thank you and goodbye."

Busch played 20 minutes on senior day and finished with four points. She said she is excited about how the team improved over the years and looks forward to the playoffs.

"We've gotten better every year," Busch said. "We didn't make playoffs [my] first year, and last year we made the playoffs and lost really badly in the first round. We expect to go far in the

playoffs."

In a post-game interview, teammate Quinn Madden, who ended the game with 12 points and seven rebounds, praised Boyle and Busch.

"It's so great to play with such an awesome point guard and post," Madden said. "They have both taught me so much. Not only do they play well together, but they have taught us how to play well together."

Gould said the team must prepare for the postseason.

"We just want to play hard, play well, and get ready for the playoffs," Gould said.

In their final regular season game, Emerson will look to continue their winning streak on the road against Mount Holyoke College on Saturday, Feb. 23 at 1 p.m.

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Madden emerges as standout defender in junior season

Aaron Miller, *Beacon Staff*

Junior guard Quinn Madden proves to be a threat on the defensive side of the court. She leads the team with more than 30 minutes per game against conference opponents.

Madden—who grew up in Mokena, Illinois—totaled three steals and two blocks in the Lions' triple-overtime win over Springfield College on Feb. 6.

In an interview after the game, Madden said defense represents a key component in most of the team's practices.

"We're all ecstatic right now because what we kept saying in the huddle was that this defense is what we've worked so hard on in practice to make it pay off," Madden said. "We kept saying, 'Have heart, have heart, every play.'"

Head coach Bill Gould commended Madden on her ability to fill any role needed on the court.

"Quinn's a very smart defensive player, and she's an aggressive player, and she's got size for a guard," Gould said. "She's strong, so depending on what we need defensively, we can have her do a lot of different roles. We have times when we tell her she needs to guard the posts, and she nods her head and says, 'Okay, and does it.'"

Madden received the Defensive Athlete of the Week accolade for the week of Feb. 4 after victories over Babson College on Jan. 30 and the United States Coast Guard Academy on Feb. 2. She totaled 20 points and 19 rebounds in the



Junior Quinn Madden (right) received the Defensive Athlete of the Week accolade for her performance against Babson and Coast Guard. • *Alexa Schapiro / Beacon Correspondent*

two games, while sitting on the bench for only one minute in each game.

"Whenever we need to give her a break, we really can't," Gould. "She's a hard [player] to get off the court."

Junior guard Natalie Clydesdale said she praises Madden for her physicality and her ability to be a team player.

"She's a strong defensive player and very physical," Clydesdale said. "When she gets the

ball, it gives us more opportunity to score on offense."

Madden began playing basketball in the third grade, with her dad as her coach. She grew to love the game by watching her two older sisters play. Madden said the Lions' new assistant coach, Shannon Norton, helped her improve defensively.

"I've always loved defense, but this year, our new assistant coach put in a new defense, and

it's really changed my game," Madden said. "Before we were just trying to keep the ball on the outside, and we didn't rely on help as much as we do now."

Madden said her passion to push the rest of the team to do their best and have fun in the process is the most important part about being on the team.

"One of the most important things I try to do is to keep positive energy and help my teammates believe in themselves," Madden said. "At the beginning of the season, we had so many close games that we lost, and now we're starting to win those games. I think we are a viable competition for any team in our conference. I'm really confident we can win the championship."

The Lions rank fifth in the NEWMAC with a record of 9-5. The top eight teams in the conference move on to the playoffs later this month.

While fighting tears, Madden said the end of her junior season will be bittersweet and emotional.

"I'm really excited to make it through, because I remember last year at the last game I was so sad because I love this team so much, and I love seeing them at practice every day, and I didn't want it to be over," Madden said. "I'm just really excited to finish this journey with them because we've worked really hard."

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Upcoming games:

Men's Volleyball

Lasell @ Emerson

Brown/Plofker Gym

Today, Feb. 14 at 7 p.m.

Men's Basketball

Coast Guard @ Emerson

Brown/Plofker Gym

Saturday, Feb. 16 at 1 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Emerson @ Mount Holyoke

Mildred S. Howard Gym

Saturday, Feb. 16 at 1 p.m.

Men's Volleyball

Newbury College @ Emerson

Brown/Plofker Gym

Saturday, Feb. 16 at 4 p.m.