

ARC grows staff to meet demands

By Laura Adrien

EMMANUEL COLLEGE'S ACADEMIC RESOURCE Center is overflowing not only with students seeking appointments, but with tutoring staff as well.

"Last year at this time we had 67 peer tutors and two study partners," says ARC Associate Director Virginia Mullin.

This year the ARC upped that number to 78 and five, respectively.

Although 11 additional Peer Tutors and 3 more Study Partners may not seem like a significant increase, the numbers have slowly crept up with each new academic year. "At this point in the semester of 2009 we had 64 Peer Tutors and 3 Study Partners," says Mullin. "In 2008 at the same time we had 57 Peer Tutors and 2 Study Partners."

Additionally, 52 of the 78 Peer Tutors are new to the ARC, which means their training dates also had to be accommodated into the already busy schedule.

With all of these increases, space has become an issue.

The ARC -- in the basement of the Cardinal Cushing Library -- has just three cubicles for peer tutoring and two for the math and writing specialists, and a small room next to the center for study groups and exams. Despite these available spaces, staff members' offices often need to be used for appointments.

"When a load of students walk in it can be overwhelming but you have to take it one at a time," says Maité Santiago '12, a student aide in the ARC since 2008.

Since its inception in the late 80s with one coordinator, 2-3 student aides and 8-10 peer tutors, the ARC has prided itself "as a place where everyone feels welcome and everyone's academic needs are met," says Mullin.

Unfortunately, the huge influx of

though they are receiving the help they asked for and expect; when they're left waiting, it creates a sense of confusion, and that's far from what we want or are intent on providing."

When Emmanuel went co-ed in 2001, the ARC experienced a similar growth spurt along with other campus resources and facilities.

This time, however, it seems that only an expansion of physical space will help, which might be in the works.



students and tutors has created a chaotic atmosphere.

Student Aid Susanna Ruppe '13 says she feels, "overwhelmed and sorry for the people that are left waiting for an available booth or room."

She says, "The ARC is a welcoming place and we want everyone to feel as

As the student population continues to grow, plans for campus expansion are being made. "The Cardinal Cushing Library is on the Administration's list for the next series of renovations," says Mullin. "We hope to be on the list for some upgrades to our facilities at that time."



EMMA Café founder Dan McDonnell

LANNAN O'BRIEN

EMMA Café bakes to raise funds

By Lannan O'Brien

MOST THURSDAY NIGHTS AT 8 IN THE EVENING, IN THE BASEMENT OF ST. JOSEPH Hall, you'll find a group of students strumming instruments and playing Haikus and Bananagrams.

And in the kitchen, Emmanuel College Radio Vice President Dan McDonnell, wearing a white apron and a bandanna and with spatula in hand, answers the beep of an oven timer.

It's called EMMA Café, and its purpose is to raise money for EC Radio and EMMA, an umbrella organization that includes the radio club. (EMMA, the Emmanuel College Multimedia Association also includes The Hub and Bang! magazine.)

EMMA Café organizers say a growing number of students are dropping by for the event's fresh baked goods, smoothies and open mic performers.

"(October 13) was our first Thursday of the semester, and was largely successful thanks to people like Ben Perdue, Amanda Rafala, Joel Blank, as well as other EC Radio members," says McDonnell. "They came together to put together a great show and made it sound like a real coffee house."

Perdue '14 opened a recent night with several originals on the guitar, followed by Blank's '13 acoustic instrumentals. Soon after, singer Amanda Rafala '14 joined him at the mic, mesmerizing the audience with her effortless renditions of classics like The Beatles' "Oh Darlin'" and The Doors' "Light My Fire."

According to McDonnell, EMMA on its first Thursday night grossed \$90 in just three hours. Since then, EMMA has raised about \$40 per week.

The vast menu of EMMA Café includes coffee, smoothies, apple fritters, muffins and other delicious treats. "We also are working on getting our cappuccinos and lattes together, and we want to do steamed apple cider... our hot chocolate has been a big hit so far," says McDonnell.

"(Amanda Rafala) makes our apple fritters from scratch," says Kristen Saucier, who manages EC Radio's music journalism. "She does most of our cooking, but we have more people now, so we're going to have someone new (in the kitchen) every week."

Low turnout for senior fete

By Carolyn Hardy

AS PART OF EMMANUEL COLLEGE'S FAMILY WEEKEND FESTIVITIES THIS FALL THE college's senior class gathered for the annual Senior Cap and Gown ceremony. In the dusty sunlight of the Administration Building's auditorium, about 60 students wore their black gowns and mortarboards, many for the first time.

But surprisingly, a number of seniors knew nothing about this event up until the moment they shuffled up the admin stairs.

"I just knew where and when to show up and where to buy my cap and gown, but I didn't know what the tradition was, or why it was happening so early in the year," says senior Rebecca Mauro. "I really didn't think it was important."

Seniors are not ceremonially given their academic garb, like with the sophomore pins or junior rings. Rather, it is just meant to acknowledge the last major step that students will take as undergraduates: beginning their final year.

"Senior Cap and Gown gives seniors the chance to unite as a class and a cohesive group," says Class of 2012 President Wes Cowles.

But the majority of the class chose to skip out. They missed being given a fresh red rose, wrapped up in blue ribbon and cellophane; a warm address from EC President Sister Janet Eisner, SND, and a funny speech about finding beauty in the world (no matter what your major is), accompanied by an embarrassing childhood photo from Associate Professor of Biology Josef Kurtz, Ph.D.

However, a few students say they would prefer to spend their Saturday afternoons elsewhere. "I don't think I'll regret not going," says Taylor Pessin. "I'm a transfer student, and I think we don't feel the same sense of camaraderie that the rest of the class feels. I didn't even know what it was, so I don't know what I'm missing."

Cowles didn't seem disappointed by the attendance numbers: "I'm just glad that we had the numbers that we did come to show their support and respect for our college as a whole."

Cowles says he does not plan to make any of the ceremonies mandatory, but did suggest including an incentive, like a discount off of Senior Week packages, in the future for students who take the time out of their schedules to attend.



COURTESY SUPERCAKEFLICKS CC

EC sets sail in spring

By Laurie-Ann Mansir

MATT PETER '13 HAS DECIDED THAT Emmanuel College will finally have a sailing team. Matt learned how to sail in high school and taught sailing to children over the past summer. With the help of Nicole Oliveria, also class of 2013, this dream can become a reality in the spring. Boston University will allow us to use their boats and docking space, and the team will be sailing on the Charles. Although the SGA hasn't approved budget yet, they all seemed excited for the team.

How long have you been sailing?

I've been sailing for about 4 years now.

Is sailing as romantic and soulful as Seth Cohen of the O.C. makes it out to be?

Of course it is. Gliding across tranquil

water using nothing but a sail and the wind? That's enough to make Daria stop hating life so much.

Why did you want to start a sailing team at Emmanuel?

I love sailing as a sport as well as an activity, and I also love being able to teach it to people who'd like to learn.

Is sailing only for rich kids?

Sometimes it may seem like it, but there are plenty of community boating programs that make sailing accessible to everyone. And despite my glamorous good looks, I really don't have a lot of money...at all, so I can personally attest that sailing is not confined to that group of people.

How many people do you want on your team?

As many as want to get out on the water and learn!

How much will it cost the school annually?

Well, it depends on how many people join the team. On average, I'd say less than \$10,000, which may seem like a lot, but in the scheme of things Emmanuel will be getting a competitive sailing team for the cost of 2 boats. Also, that's just the initial investment. A lot of equipment is reusable for years, so annual upkeep could cost around \$3000.

Anything else you wanted to mention?

Just that it's open to everyone of all skill levels. I coach over the summer and have taught people of a wide range of ability, so if someone may feel intimidated to join with no prior experience, I'd love to teach anyone with an interest to learn. Sailing really isn't as hard as it may seem, and it's something I believe everyone should have the opportunity to try and enjoy.