

Seasoned technology professional transitioning into financial analysis/planning/management in the public interest

**Brent Emerson**

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## SKILLS & INTERESTS

Systems design, analysis, and maintenance  
Mathematical modeling for decision-making  
Process, organizational, and interpersonal dynamics  
Financial structures which build worker and community wealth  
Management & governance systems which empower workers, consumers, and the public

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Linux Systems Administrator** Portland State University, Office of Information Technology *2015–present*

As a senior member of the Linux team in Computing Infrastructure Services, I share broad responsibility for administering 400+ Linux servers. From a technical perspective, I focus on systems hosting the ERP and BI software used across campus, but I feel my main contributions are in process management, host lifecycle planning, strategic architecture development, clarifying issues to enable problem-solving, cultivating collaborative work environments, and modeling excellent customer service.

**CFO / Founding Worker-Owner / UNIX System Administrator** Electric Embers Cooperative *2003–2015*

Cofounded this small worker cooperative, building it over a decade from hobby scale to employing four full-time sysadmins in providing socially responsible open source Internet hosting services to over 800 nonprofits, artists, and coops. An initially purely technical role evolved into strategy leadership and primary responsibility for technical and nontechnical systems architecture, project management, apprentice training, department co-management, bookkeeping, accounting, and financial management.

**Independent Nonprofit Technology Consultant** Tech Underground *2001–2003*

Performed hardware/software evaluations, installations, maintenance, training, and support for San Francisco Bay Area nonprofit organizations. Cofounded Tech Underground, a network of a dozen like consultants: contributed to operational and organizational procedures, facilitated regular meetings, and shared rotating administrative responsibilities.

**Messaging Support Lead Engineer** Pilot Network Services *1999–2001*

**Webmaster / Online Marketing Coordinator** Morgan Kaufmann Publishers *1998–1999*

**Webmaster / System Administrator** Sundance Film Festival & Institute *1996–1998*

## EDUCATION

**M.S. Finance** Portland State University *2017-2019 (in progress)* **Lean Practitioner** PSU CEPE *2017 (in progress)*

**B.A. Mathematics and Philosophy (Logic & Philosophy of Science)** Brown University *1998*

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

**Active Member & Volunteer** Portland Japanese Garden, Portland Jazz Composers Ensemble

**Founder & Organizer** Portland Project for Cooperative Innovation *2012-2014*

**Peer Advisor** Democracy at Work Network *2009–2013*

**Board Member** Network of Bay Area Worker Cooperatives *2006*

**Founder & Coordinator** VotePair *2004* votetrader.org *2000*

## PUBLICATIONS

yudō: the Art of the Bath *2016 (bathing culture booklet)*

edge of a mountain forest *2013* synchronology *2002* Journals including Bombay Gin, The Styles, and Spillway (poetry)

A Technology Freelancer's Guide to Starting a Worker Cooperative *2009 (business development guide)*

DNS and SMTP for Internet Technology Integrators: Concepts, Tools, and Tricks *2007 (technology whitepaper)*