

Seasoned Internet technology professional and entrepreneur
refocusing on operations/financial analysis in the public interest

Brent Emerson

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EDUCATION

M.S. Finance Portland State University 2019

Lean Practitioner PSU Center for Executive and Professional Education 2018

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

WORK EXPERIENCE

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

As a senior member of the Linux team in Technology Infrastructure, I lead and share 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, 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 Institute & Film Festival 1996–1998

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

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*)

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Systems design, analysis, and maintenance

Mathematical modeling for decision-making

Process, organizational, and interpersonal dynamics

Financial structures which build worker & community wealth

Management & governance which empower workers & consumers