

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

**Brent Emerson**

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## 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*

## EDUCATION

Graduate & undergraduate coursework in **Accounting, Finance, Statistics** Portland State University *2016–present*

**Certified Lean Practitioner** PSU Center for Executive and Professional Education *2018*

**B.A. Mathematics, 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*

## 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 structures which empower workers & consumers