Dr. Scott Ballantyne holds a doctorate in education from Widener University and a master in public administration from Kutztown University, but is most proud of the degree he obtained as an undergraduate accounting student right here at Alvernia, in 1986.

As the 2009 recipient of the “Christian R. & Mary F. Lindback Foundation Award for Excellence in Teaching,” Ballantyne exemplifies outstanding classroom performance, instructional support, and campus leadership—as well as the highest traditions of the teaching profession at Alvernia University.

Ballantyne’s teaching excellence was also recognized in 2009 by the business department’s accrediting agency (the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs), which awarded him the Teaching Excellence Award for Region Two (including Pennsylvania, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia).

As a Tenured Associate Professor at Alvernia, Ballantyne has served as the MBA Coordinator, ASBSP Initial Accreditation Coordinator, and Department Chair. He regularly writes articles appearing in peer-reviewed journals, presents at national and international conferences, and directs student research and dissertation projects. He is currently in the process of co-authoring a book on organization planning with fellow business department faculty members Beth Berret and Mary Ellen Wells.

Licensed as an insurance agent, Ballantyne also holds registrations as a Pennsylvania Registered School Business Administrator, and is a registered representative in the financial securities industry.

On the fun side, Ballantyne is a licensed private pilot, a licensed boat captain, a scuba diver, a fisherman, and a motorcycle enthusiast.

Ballantyne continues to be actively involved in the community by utilizing community research projects in the Alvernia MBA capstone class to build comprehensive plans for organizations that improve our community. He carefully chooses organizations that need business advice, but may not be able to afford comprehensive planning services.

He is a member of the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials, Eastern Educational Research Association, Institute of Management Accountants, and the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs.
Awards, Grants & Installations

Scott Ballantyne, Ed.D., PRSBA
Associate Professor of Business

Recipient of the 2009 “Excellence in Teaching Award” for Region 2 of the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs.

Recipient of the 2009 Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award form the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation award as selected by the Honors and Awards committee of Alvernia University.

Beth A. Berret, Ed.D., SPHR
Associate Professor of Business

Recipient of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) Foundation’s 2009 Advisor of the Year Award.

This award, presented by the SHRM Foundation, recognizes outstanding service and leadership provided to student chapters by SHRM advisors.

Travis A. Berger, M.Ed.
Instructor of Sport Management

Fellowship Awarded: Twenty-Third Annual IUP Foundation Doctoral Fellowship, 2009-2010 academic year.

The selection as a recipient of the fellowship reflects strong academic credentials and potential for excellence in teaching and research. Fellowship recipients are expected to contribute in an important way to the level of scholarship at IUP.

Karen Ann V. Cameron, Ph.D., OTD, OTR/L
Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy
Occupational Therapy Program Director

Fellowship Awarded: 2009 American Occupational Therapy Association/American Occupational Therapy Foundation Leadership Fellow.

The purpose of the year-long fellowship was to enhance the emergence of strong occupational therapy leaders within the academic community as well as building the profession’s capacity to influence and lead. Cameron was one of 16 selected from a national list of candidates.

Frances Ross
Assistant Professor of Art

Recipient of the Jack Coggins Memorial Prize for artwork titled, “Indian River” (a pastel painting) at the 32nd Annual Open Juried Art Exhibit- Reading Public Museum.

Karen S. Thacker, Ph.D., RN, CNE
Dean, College of Professional Programs
Associate Professor of Nursing


Initiative to increase ethnic and economic diversity in the nursing workforce. Funding for this project allows the nursing department to explore new interventions and measure their impact on retention. An aggressive retention program supports student success with a multi-tiered approach that includes financial assistance, professional mentorship and intense discipline-specific academic support.