



ADP NEWS

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Prof. Carolyn Bazik is First to Receive Award

In This Issue:

- Carolyn Bazik is the First Melinda Riccio '94 Award Winner p.1 & p.3
- Dollars and Sense: Financial Aid Advice and FAQs p.2
- Student Spotlight: Megan Kapun p.2
- An Interview with Professor Richard Chamberlain p.4

Carolyn Bazik is the first recipient of the Melinda Riccio '94 Faculty Award. The program, which honors a faculty member for Excellence in Teaching, was created in honor of the late accounting professor Melinda Riccio Albright College class of '94. "It was a great idea to make the award in honor of Melinda," said Bazik in response to receiving the award. "I think it's a great way to honor her memory...I think Melinda was a real asset to Albright and her loss will be felt for many years to come.

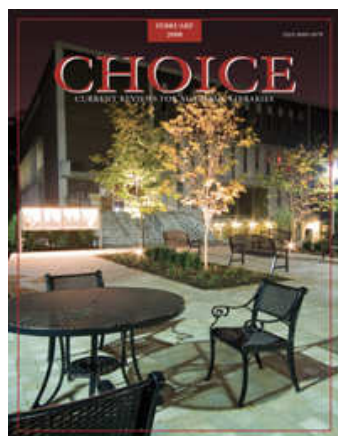
teaching is a lot about approachability." Bazik believes approachability is essential in a classroom setting. When she worked for Northeastern Berks Advanced Life Support in Fleetwood, Pa she learned that emergency medical service work teaches valuable life lessons—"the fragility of it, the way life changes for people in an instant. That really helps focus you and center you, and gives a unique perspective on the meaning of life." Bazik truly has led an exceptional life, working across a variety of fields, but always for the benefit of others and for her surrounding community. Bazik has worked all sorts of positions, from emergency medical work as an EMT and paramedic to administrative positions with non-profits, to teaching business courses where she guides students to help fulfill their potential.

have obviously lived, some older some younger, different backgrounds, and a bond draws them together, and that bond is that they want to complete a degree." Each student comes to Albright with his or her own experiences and a drive to evolve, which is exactly what they do throughout their cohort experience. The wide range of diverse backgrounds and life experiences, which Bazik explained are "deeply intertwined" create an ideal environment for student enrichment.

When asked about what students should know about her before entering the classroom Bazik offered, "my philosophy is if [the students] weren't there, I wouldn't be there—so my job is to serve them...but it's a give and take kind of environment. I expect them to do their work, I expect them to be prepared and I expect them to be honest when they're not prepared." *Continued on page 3*

The Degree Completion Program clearly provides an extraordinarily unique opportunity and setting. Here you have people...folks who

As an emergency medical technician (EMT) and then later as a Paramedic, Carolyn Bazik learned the skills to become a well-rounded individual who gives back to her community. In her work as an EMT and paramedic Bazik developed interpersonal skills and approachability. "When you're doing EMT work and you're showing up at somebody's house at three in the morning I think you begin to develop good people skills and I think



Know any-
one who may
be interested
in Albright?



Information Sessions: Lancaster August 20th & September 30th

6-7 p.m. or 7-8 p.m.

DOLLARS AND SENSE

What does “Financial Aid” mean to you?

For many students, financial aid is a necessity in meeting the costs of a post-secondary education. Scholarships, grants, loans, and campus employment are all forms of financial aid funding. Unfortunately, the processes involved to accessing those aid programs can be confusing and frustrating to the students who need the financial assistance which may lead to missed deadlines and loss of funding.

Some common questions:

Q. Is it too late to apply for financial aid ?

A. Absolutely not !! Federal aid is still available. You just need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the upcoming academic year, 2008-2009.

Q. How do I apply ?

A. First, you should apply for a Personal Identification Number (PIN) at www.pin.ed.gov. Your Federal PIN will be sent to an email address that you provide. Then you complete your FAFSA on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov. After providing all of the information requested, you will use your Federal PIN as an electronic signature on your electronic FAFSA. It's that easy!

Q. What happens next ?

A. Your information will be analyzed by the Federal Department of Education, and the analysis will be sent to the schools you listed on your FAFSA. As an Albright student, be sure you list Albright (School Code 003229). The Financial Aid Office will be notified of your aid eligibility and prepare a financial aid award letter for you. The letter will inform you of the types of aid for which you have eligibility.

Q. What types of aid will I receive?

A. There are two basic types of aid. Grants or

A. On the Albright website, under Admissions, click on “Financial Aid”, then Private Scholarships. There are many scholarships with application details listed here. Also, a very good scholarship search is www.fastweb.com. This is a free scholarship search. In searching for scholarships, beware of scams! A good rule of thumb: if it costs money to get money, it's probably a scam.

This column will welcome your suggestions and questions for future topics. Please submit your ideas to finaid@alb.edu.

The Financial Aid Office is located in the rear of Selwyn Hall. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 AM – 5 PM.

Student Spotlight: Commuting from the Set to the Classroom



Megan Kapun's schedule makes her a superb candidate for Albright's Accelerated-Degree Programs (ADP). Kapun spends time almost every week working and networking at Sci-Fi and horror conventions around the country.

Kapun explained how flexibility is necessary because of her hectic schedule. She enrolled in the Business program at Albright's Bethlehem location, but plans to continue her classes at the main campus in Reading. Kapun received her Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Northampton Community College and is on target to receive her Bachelor's Degree from Albright in the fall of 2009.

Kapun said since she got started in the movie industry she has always thought about working on the business aspects of sets. Kapun hopes that her degree in Business from Albright will help her achieve her aspiration to become more involved in the business, finance and production aspects of film.

So far Kapun has worked on three films including *B.T.K.*, directed by Michael Feifer and released only in Russia to date; *Fallen Angels*, directed by Jeff Thomas and released in October of 2007; and *Ted Bundy: An American Icon*, also directed by Michael Feifer, which is still in the editing phase. In *B.T.K.* Kapun played the “first victim”, and in the Bundy film she played a hitchhiker. When asked how she became interested in the horror genre, Kapun explained that it was all because of Kane Hodder, who she incidentally met at a haunted house and is perhaps best known for his role as Jason Voorhees in the *Friday the 13th* series. It was Hodder who “introduced me to stunt work,” said Kapun, as well as “to the movie sets.

Despite being new to the industry Kapun has already met “almost every horror actor.” Currently Kapun does stunt work,

but so far she said, only little parts. She hopes to graduate in the world of stunt doubling to doing car stunts. When Kapun is not working on film sets, she spends her time at Cedarbrook nursing home. Kapun has been with Cedarbrook for over six years now and “still enjoy[s] going to work”. “I chose to work at the nursing home on my free time because I enjoy making people smile...and making their day a little better.”

Kapun's favorite actor is Jack Nicholson, a statement that is difficult to contend with as she has a tattoo to prove her loyalty.

Kapun will be traveling to London this September in time for the release of *B.T.K.*

["Carolyn Bazik" cont. from p.1]

Professor Bazik wants students to see her as approachable. She insisted she is tough, but fair. Stressing the importance of communication, Bazik said that all she asks of students is for them to come and talk to her. "I learn from them so if I'm doing something they individually, or the cohort, doesn't like, waiting to tell me about it in the class evaluation is a little too late."

In terms of what students should take away from her classes, Bazik divulged the following: "I hope that they take away a better understanding of the subject matter and a better understanding about life, because I think the two are deeply intertwined. Everybody's talking about the capstone class, the final summation class, from almost day one. In many cases my job is to keep them focused and realize that the end is there, in sight, and they should hang on, and that if they feel tired or frustrated it's not like there aren't a thousand people who came before them who felt the same way."

"What sets Albright apart [from its competition] is its commitment to revise the program, to make the program better, and to be willing to listen to what the students have to say. On the one hand, Bazik stressed the importance of bringing real world experience to the classroom. But she also acknowledges "there's real value in having full-time academicians whose job it is to do nothing but teach because it adds validity and credibility to the program."

Bazik is one of those professors with a day job—but it isn't your typical 9-5. "I was raised in a family where giving back to the community was always something that was important." Bazik, a self-described "people person" conveyed her method for giving back. "I like to do things that give me an opportunity to interact with people. to, I hope, make the world a little bit of a better place." Bazik works for the Co-County Wellness Services, which has two locations, one in Berks and one in Schuylkill, the Berks AIDS Network and Schuylkill Wellness Services respectively. Bazik says her work for the organization "is exciting [and] challenging...I don't think there's a person alive today who hasn't been affected in some way" by HIV, AIDS, or sexually transmitted disease. As Bazik explains it, "the organization tries to provide support for an indigent population to attain a life that would otherwise be impossible to attain." As opposed to passing moral judgment,

the organization focuses its attention on public health. "The work that we do makes the community a healthier place for everybody." The Co-County Wellness Services cooperate with prisons, schools and college campuses—"wherever high-risk folks gather. Bazik hopes that by shifting attention to thoughts of public health, the stigma associated with having HIV and AIDS will in turn be lessened.

Co-County Wellness Services operates two physical locations, each offering a "full menu of services". "August 13th will be my 13 year anniversary", says Bazik. "We've grown; we've become a mature organization. We're United Way supported. All of our services are free"—which is most certainly "a challenge, especially in today's economic times."

Bazik has an undergraduate degree in both education and special education and an MBA in Finance. She has been with the Degree Completion Program almost since its inception. Since she started teaching, Bazik first taught Management, Business Statistics, and Production Management. Now she mostly teaches Accounting, Finance, Capstone "and some macroeconomics from time to time."

"I've always wanted to teach," says Bazik, and it sounds like she always will. When asked about her plans for the future, Bazik explained, "I hope to continue to teach. At some point I might like to pursue further education myself...I'd like to continue doing work that's meaningful to me. Teaching is meaningful to me. Editing the fraternal magazine is meaningful to me. Running the non-profit organization is also meaningful." Professor Bazik never reads just one book at a time, more likely five or six. "I love to read, that's probably one of my most favorite hobbies—I devour a wide range of eclectic tastes." Carolyn Bazik currently resides in the Centre Park Historic District, in Reading, and believes "it's the best kept secret in Berks County". Some of Bazik's other hobbies or pastimes include taking walks, jogging and traveling.

It seems appropriate to end with a quote from George Bernard Shaw that Carolyn Bazik is not only fond of, but a saying she continues to gain inspiration from. "This is the true joy in life: Being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one, being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances, complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy. I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I

want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. Life is no "brief candle" for me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

In her "other life" Carolyn Bazik edits and publishes a 24-page color monthly magazine *Fraternally Yours* for the FCSLA, a half billion-dollar insurance fraternal based in Cleveland, Ohio where she maintains a seat on their Board of Directors.

Although not recently updated, more information on Co-County Wellness Services can be found at <http://www.berksaidsnetwork.org/>.

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Linda Reinhart – Administrative Assistant / Instructional Support

Faculty Spotlight: An Interview with Prof. Richard Chamberlain

This February, Professor Chamberlain accepted the position of Coordinator of Accounting for the Degree Completion Program (DCP). In addition to teaching, he is now responsible for recruiting and scheduling instructors, and for reviewing the content of the accounting courses. As coordinator, Chamberlain explained how he has now taken on an unofficial role as “academic advisor” for accounting students. This means that he is next in line for addressing student’s academic concerns after they speak with their professor.

Chamberlain believes his best asset as a professor is his broad experience. He has worked as a CPA, in both financial and cost accounting, and brings his real life work experience back to the classroom. Chamberlain received his undergraduate degree in Accounting from Penn State. He earned his MBA from St. Joseph’s University, and interestingly took many of the credits for this degree at Albright. Chamberlain spent 8-years in the Philadelphia office of KPMG, an international public accounting firm that offers audit, tax and advisory services. He moved to Reading to work with Carpenter Technology.

Carpenter manufactures and distributes specialty alloys and metals and is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. In the 27-years he was with the corporation, Chamberlain worked in various managerial positions.

Coming from a corporate environment Chamberlain is used to communicating with coworkers with many different backgrounds. His experience with diverse audiences has served him well in his classroom interactions with students, who each have vastly different work histories and past experiences. In teaching, Chamberlain stresses the importance of *knowing your audience*. He explained how it is essential to know where each student stands so that you know the concepts you have to teach. Chamberlain also expects his students to communicate with him, to give feedback. He requires a 3-5 page paper at the end of his courses that allows students to display the development of their written communication skills. Additionally, he believes it is an important skill for those in the accounting field to be able to talk to a small group. To practice and develop oral communication abilities, Chamberlain re-

quires his students to give an informal presentation on their paper topics.

Chamberlain has taught almost all of the 16-courses offered by the Accounting Program at many of the ADP locations. In the future he hopes to “hit the books”, or *text-books* more specifically, in order to become more familiar with the courses he does not currently teach.

At present, Albright’s DCP and “day” program in accounting are highly similar in content. The Accelerated Degree Program is “a very good program for the right audience”, said Chamberlain, which is why students need to know their time availability and priorities. “It’s kind of like a sprint,” Chamberlain explained. He added that although the program is compressed into a short period of time, students still need to receive all of the information taught in the traditional four-year program.

Rich Chamberlain spends much of his leisure time at the Jersey shore. He enjoys golf and fiction novels. He reads *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and *The Wall Street Journal*.

2008 Class Start and General Information Dates:

- Blue Bell, Business Administration - August 25
- Reading, Information Systems - August 25
- Reading, Applied Psychology/Organizational Behavior – September 4
- Lancaster, Accounting - September 9
- Lancaster, Business Administration - September 10
- Blue Bell, Applied Psychology - September 23
- Pottstown, Crime & Justice - October 2
- Harrisburg, Applied Psychology - October 20

For more information about Albright’s Accelerated-Degree Programs visit us @ <http://www.albright.edu/accelerated/index.html>.

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