

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS
ADVANCED DATABASE ADMINISTRATION

Don Berndt, Ph.D.

Certainly, it's been wonderful to be teaching in these programs. I'm lucky to actually teach in the same area I do research, which I think is a particularly important thing. My research has always been in the same areas. And all of my commercial activity, both entrepreneurial activities before and after becoming a faculty member, are in that space.

And so I try to walk a line between textbook and hands-on activity. So basically, each module is divided into pieces where you do some background reading. But then we look at advanced topics such as indexing, query optimization, transaction processing, parallelism in database systems, and look at how you use those facilities in commercial database engines.

And so they'll get a hands-on activity on that aspect of, basically, use of database systems at a fairly high level and develop a portfolio of real artifacts to show people, and to spend your time doing programming, and doing database development, and doing data mining in a way that you can wow someone in an interview, and hit the ground running, and contribute to a team. And so I think our program here is technical enough and hands-on enough that you get a lot of those skills to hit the ground running.