

JOHN R. BALLARD, Ph.D.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Visionary executive with extensive experience in strategic planning, higher education administration, change management, and financial growth. Proven ability to provide strategic vision, drive academic innovation, ensure continuous improvement / accreditation, foster partnerships and ensure institutional success. Adept at developing transparent Board relations, engaging productively with stakeholders, promoting shared governance, accomplishing transformative goals as a team, and advancing holistic student success.

EDUCATION

- **Ph.D. in History**, The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, 1994
 - **M.A. in History**, California State University, Dominguez Hills, CA, 1986
 - **B.S. in History**, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD, 1979
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LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

President

National Intelligence University, Bethesda, MD (2023 – Present)

- Leads the university's academic, administrative, and outreach functions across multiple global academic centers.
- Oversees faculty, accreditation, budgeting, and strategic initiatives to advance education and research in national security and technology policy.
- Engages with federal leadership, private sector partners, and academia to enhance institutional impact and reputation.
- Developed a new strategic plan, *Together We Transform*, in the first year.
- Opened a new research, education and solutions lab to foster collaboration with private sector.
- Developed new funding sources and earned new national laboratory status.

Inaugural Provost

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, NY (2018 – 2023)

- Directed all academic operations, faculty development, and accreditation efforts for a federally funded service academy.
- Led strategic planning, curriculum innovation, student success initiatives, and technological advancements to modernize academic programs.
- Restored accreditation following previous institutional shortfalls.
- Managed the transition to and from COVID with no reduction in graduation rates.

Vice President

American Association of State Colleges and Universities, Washington, DC (2017 – 2018)

- Managed programs supporting student success across the nation.
- Adapted funding initiatives and research projects to enhance student learning and retention.
- Directed national military and veteran support program.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (cont.)

Founding Dean

National Defense College, Abu Dhabi, UAE (2013 – 2017)

- Established and led an elite, national security studies institution, managing faculty, curriculum development, and strategic partnerships.
- Spearheaded accreditation and assessment initiatives, ensuring academic excellence and program effectiveness.

Dean

National War College, National Defense University, Washington, DC (2011 – 2013)

- Provided academic leadership for a premier graduate institution specializing in national security strategy.
- Developed innovative programs to enhance leadership development and strategic thinking.

Dean

Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University, Washington, DC (2009 – 2011)

- Led faculty and research efforts focused on security, policy, and diplomacy in the Middle East and South Asia.
- Directed international academic programs through high-level engagements with global policymakers.

Professor

Multiple institutions (1995-2009)

- Inaugural Chair for Massey University Defense Studies Program in New Zealand.
- Taught undergraduate and graduate history, strategy and national security studies courses.
- Designed and coordinated construction of Okinawa Hall, housing the Owen Pickett Wargaming Center and the Ike Skelton Library.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Created team-developed strategies enhanced by **strategic vision**.
- Successfully **secured institutional accreditation** at multiple institutions.
- Implemented **faculty development programs** that increased retention and instructional quality.
- Established partnerships with **government agencies, private sector leaders, and international institutions** to enhance research and student opportunities.
- Led **fundraising efforts**, securing resources to expand educational programs and facilities.
- Launched **innovative academic programs**, aligning education with workforce and national security needs.
- Championed student success initiatives, **improving learning and alumni engagement**.
- **Integrated technology and active learning** methods to increase retention.
- Managed complex/multifaceted organizations.
- Improved **institutional brand / recognition** to aide recruitment.

RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT

- Scholar of **history, national security, and leadership.**
- Contributor to **multiple peer-reviewed journals and academic conferences** in security studies and education policy.
- Frequent speaker and advisor on **higher education leadership, strategy, and institutional innovation.**

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- With Robert Sharp and Sterling Jensen, *National Security Education: Developing Strategic Leaders for 21st Century Security Challenges*, (Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research, Abu Dhabi, UAE), 2021.
- With David W. Lamm and John K. Wood, *From Kabul to Baghdad and Back, the U.S. at War in Afghanistan and Iraq*, (U.S. Naval Institute Press, Annapolis, MD), 2012.
- *From Storm to Freedom: the Long American War with Iraq*, (U.S. Naval Institute Press, Annapolis, MD), 2010.
- *Triumph of Self-Determination, Operation Stabilise and United Nations Peacemaking in East Timor*, (Praeger Security International, Westport, CT), 2008.
- “A Regional Recipe for Success: Multinational Peace Operations in East Timor,” in Joseph Soeters and Philippe Manigart (eds.), *Military Cooperation in Multinational Peace Operations, Managing Cultural Diversity and Crisis Response* (Routledge, London, UK), 2008.
- “Extinguishing the Insurgency in Iraq: A Civil Affairs Perspective,” in Thomas G. Mahnken, and Thomas A. Keaney (eds.), *War on Iraq: Planning and Execution* (Routledge, London, UK), 2007.
- *Fighting for Fallujah*, (Praeger Security International, Westport, CT), 2006.
- “MacArthur’s Counter-attack at Inchon, 1950,” *Joint Force Quarterly*, Spring, 2001.
- *Continuity during the Storm: Boissy d’Anglas and the Era of the French Revolution*, (Greenwood, Westport, CT), 2000.
- *Upholding Democracy: the United States Military Campaign in Haiti, 1994-1997*, (Praeger, Westport, CT), 1998.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Strategic Planning & Institutional Growth
- Academic Entrepreneurship
- Strengthening Enrollment and Retention
- Institutional Accreditation
- Innovation
- Holistic Student Success
- Curriculum & Faculty Development
- Fundraising & Stakeholder Engagement
- History, National Security, Leader Development & International Affairs
- Public Speaking & Media Relations

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Director of National Intelligence **Distinguished Service Award**, 2024
- Senior National Intelligence Service **Performance Award**, 2024
- Merchant Marine **Outstanding Achievement Award**, 2023
- Secretary of Transportation **Innovation Leadership Award**, 2023
- Senior Executive Service **Performance Awards**, 2019, 2000, 2001, 2022
- Secretary of Transportation **Superior Achievement Award**, 2019
- **Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal**, and multiple military awards, 2005, 2007
- Army Historical Foundation **Distinguished Writing Award**, 2002
- Department of the Navy **Meritorious Civilian Service Medal**, 1999
- **Society of the Colonial Daughters of the Seventeenth Century Award**, U.S. Naval Academy, 1979
- **General Horace Porter Award in History**, U.S. Naval Academy, 1979

CONTACT INFORMATION

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