

# BRYANT COLLEGE



**WOMEN IN BUSINESS**



**B**ryant alumnae include many profiles of success. Our female graduates are corporate leaders and entrepreneurs, accomplished professionals and rising stars. They are single and married; many have children.

Making up 43 percent of the student body, Bryant's women students are equally active and successful. Women are officers of 55 percent of Bryant's student clubs and 20 out of 42 club presidents are women. They are presidents of the Accounting Association; *The Archway* newspaper, *The Ledger* yearbook, and WJMF radio station; BRYCOL student corporation; the Commuter Connection; the Dance Club; the Hunger Coalition; the Multicultural Student Union; and the Student Alumni Association, among others. Eighteen percent of women students join College sororities.

Women choose to major in all the disciplines Bryant offers. Business concentrations are accounting, applied actuarial mathematics, computer information systems, finance, management, and marketing. Liberal arts concentrations are available in communications, economics, English, history, and international studies. Small classes and caring faculty are the norm in all subject areas at Bryant.

Education goes on in and out of the classroom. Workshops offered by the Career Services Office can help you with everything from choosing a major to preparing for a specific profession. Programs can help you evaluate your interests and abilities, explore your career options, write your resume, and prepare for interviews. Mentoring programs will let you tie into the active alumni network. And as graduation approaches, Bryant will do a great job of helping you get a job. Last year, 182 companies recruited Bryant seniors on campus.

Many special programs will help you prepare for your professional life. Both men and women enjoy annual seminars that range from learning how to dress professionally and project confidence to developing dining etiquette for interview meals and business dinners. A recent special presentation included a panel discussion of how to identify and deal with sexual harassment.

The people of Bryant believe in helping you develop not only as a professional, but as a whole person. As you adjust to college and prepare for your career, there are many people at Bryant to guide you. An advisor will help you choose courses, both within your major and as electives. If you take an internship, you'll have both a College and an on-site supervisor. Career services will help you professionally; counseling services can help you personally.



Ahead of her time, a trend-setter, a role model - these are the terms that describe Mary Dupont. Mary has just been named partner-in-charge of human resources at KMPG Peat Marwick, making her the first woman to hold this senior management position at any of the "Big 6" accounting firms.

What are Mary's tickets to success? Talent and intelligence, of course. But don't discount planning and ambition.

"I am clearly driven to succeed and to exceed expectations, my own as well as those of others," Mary says. "I am always looking for another challenge, always out front seeking new opportunities and new ways of doing things better."

An accounting major at Bryant, Mary joined KMPG Peat Marwick right after graduation as an assistant accountant in the Boston office. Earning a law degree in 1976, Mary transferred to the Stamford office in search of opportunities for advancement. She found them. After numerous steps up the corporate ladder, in 1988 Mary was promoted to partner-in-charge of the Stamford's 70-member tax department.

Mary's new job is as impressive as the woman. She is responsible for the compensation and benefits, human resource policies and procedures, international personnel exchange programs, and all professional training and career development for the firm's 1,494 partners and more than 12,000 professionals.

The rise to the top has not been easy, and there have been sacrifices. "I delayed marriage and children intentionally," Mary says. "I had a lifetime game plan and it worked for me, but it could just as easily have failed. Those are the risks you take."

The risks have paid off. Mary is married and her husband, Robert Decelles, is a tax partner-in-charge of Peat Marwick's New York City office. They have a daughter and twin sons. A live-in governess and full-time housekeeper help Mary and Bob balance the demands of family and careers.

"I think I come as close to having it all as anyone can aspire to, but every day there are trade offs. You have to find time for family, for business, and for yourself. I probably make trade-offs that other people wouldn't be willing to make. Everybody does it differently."

Can women have it all? That's a question women who hope to balance a career and family ask again and again. One look at Jenny Mearns, and you'll say the answer is "Yes!"

No matter how you measure success, Jenny adds up. She's a partner in International Sports and Entertainment Strategies, a company which manages and negotiates sports and entertainment sponsorships for clients like IBM, Coca Cola, and Haagen-Dazs. They have offices in New York, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Tokyo, and London. Last year, her company "spun off" from Burson Marsteller, the world's largest public relations firm.

Married, with a baby daughter, Jenny makes things work with a flex-time schedule - she's in the office four days a week, and works at home one day. "Having that flexibility keeps me sane," she says. "Working and motherhood are a really good mix. I wouldn't want to be home all the time; I enjoy working. My company provided me with a fax and a computer at home. That's all I need to get my job done."

Sharing responsibilities is another of the keys in Jenny's life. Her





job used to be 50 percent travel, and that was a concern for her when she decided to start a family. She now delegates most travel responsibilities and is only away a few days a month. When she is, her husband, Geoff, an assistant US attorney for the state of New York, cares for their daughter, Bridget.

Jenny advises young women to be flexible. "Make sure you enjoy what you're doing. If you don't, get out and try something new. Women have lots of choices now, so just do what's best for you and be your own person."

"You have to be willing to take chances to get ahead in business. And you have to be willing to work hard," Jenny adds.

Jenny's college experiences helped prepare her for her career. "My Bryant education was a great confidence builder," says this New Jersey native. "I felt I had a direction. I had a solid education and practical experience. And my semester in London helped me get started in international business." Her interest in athletics started in college, too. A cross country athlete, she was Bryant's first female to compete in a national NCAA championship event.



The world is spinning for Tolla Anderson. Or at least the CDs are; Tolla works in the music industry.

Tolla is a copyright and licensing assistant for Malaco Records in Jackson, Mississippi, her hometown. It is her job to apply to the Library of Congress for copyrights for new songs, and to handle requests for song use licenses. "For instance, if a television show wants to use 'Old Time Rock and Roll,' they have to obtain a license from us," Tolla says.



Preparing promotional materials is another big part of Tolla's job. She edits and designs a quarterly magazine that is distributed to radio stations, magazine music reviewers, and record distributors. She also writes press releases and biographies on artists. Tolla finds both her business degree and business communications major are proving useful.

"There are a lot of advantages to a communications major," Tolla says. "It helps you become a more well-rounded person. Communication skills are very important, no matter what career you're in."

Two student internships, part-time jobs, and summer jobs all helped Tolla get a head start on her

career. One of her three summers working at Malaco counted as an internship. She did another internship in the Bryant Alumni Office, working on the alumni newsletter and events. "That helped me understand deadlines and develop a professional attitude toward my work," she says.

Tolla is part of a Bryant tradition. Her two sisters are Bryant alumnae and their experiences made Bryant her number one college choice. "I liked what it had to offer me," she

says. "The campus was beautiful and the small enrollment meant that students and instructors could work closely together, rather than a student being just another face in the classroom."

"I really appreciated my professors. They have a lot of confidence in their students and they don't give up on you. They take a personal interest in you, in helping you with your studies and your career goals. It's more of a friendship than a student-teacher relationship."

Tolla expects to be back in the classroom before long. This ambitious young woman plans to go to graduate school soon, maybe for an MBA and even a PhD.

Counseling services are available to help all students cope with stress and other adjustment problems, or to address more long-term issues. There are two professional counselors on staff and all individual or group counseling is completely confidential. The residence life staff also offers seminars on health and safety issues.

Bryant women support one another. Women faculty and administrators take an interest in women students, and serve as role models, mentors, and friends. Women Educators at Bryant (WEB) is a group of female faculty, administrators, and students whose overall purposes include serving as a network of support and information for individual and community growth, promoting awareness of issues affecting women in the world and at Bryant, and establishing a strong sense of community for women at Bryant.

The Bryant community lives and works together on a stunning campus; visitors frequently comment on its beauty and cleanliness. Striking modern buildings stand in contrast to scenic ponds and rolling hills. Bryant's outstanding facilities include the Unistructure, home to all classes and most faculty offices; the Bryant Center, which contains many eating places, meeting areas, and shops; and the MAC, where many athletic and recreational activities take place.

Bryant's housing options are among our greatest attractions. Over 80 percent of Bryant students live on campus in double rooms, single rooms, suites, or townhouse apartments. The Freshman Complex offers a family-like environment with live-in resident directors and resident advisors to help new students adjust to college life. Most upperclass men and women live in suites and many seniors choose the independence and privacy of townhouse apartments.

Students enjoy Bryant's spacious 287 acre campus, but appreciate being only 15 minutes from the city of Providence and all its restaurants and activities. Bryant is also only one hour from Boston and three hours from New York City. Students benefit from city life, but are largely protected from its problems. The Bryant Office of Public Safety provides 24-hour security and access to campus is limited to one main entrance. A Campus Crime Prevention Committee, whose membership includes students, also takes responsibility for safety information and crime prevention.

A pleasant environment, close community, personal advice and counsel, and professional preparation all combine to make Bryant College a special place. Come to campus and see if this is the place for you.



## CAROLINE LA FORGE '88

A career in law. A career working on environmental issues. Either one would interest many people. Caroline LaForge has both.

Caroline is an attorney with the New York City law firm of Mendes and Mount. This firm of 150 attorneys represents insurance companies like Lloyd's of London in environmental action cases. Caroline went to Pace University Law School straight from Bryant, and graduated with honors last year. She worked for Mendes and Mount in her second summer of law school and decided "This is great!"

"My job is never mundane or repetitive," Caroline says. "It's high pressure, but I like that. It's really challenging, and rewarding, too."

A management major at Bryant, Caroline's parents are both small business owners and she thought she might go into business, too. But law had always been in the back of her mind, and the closer she got to graduation the more she thought about going to law school.

A native of Woodcliff Lake, NJ, Caroline found out about Bryant when an admission representative showed a slide presentation at a local hotel. "I loved the scenery. When I visited campus, it really impressed me. Bryant had all the characteristics I was looking for: beautiful campus, small community, highly qualified faculty."

"I loved Bryant. I would go back tomorrow if I could," she adds.

Caroline is engaged to be married to a law school classmate next summer. She thinks she may take a break from her career when she has children, but plans to go back. "I've worked too hard to get where I am to give it up," she says.

Steady progress characterizes Donna Klinkowski's career. Recruited on campus by Data General as a benefits analyst, she then went to Digital Equipment Corporation as a financial analyst. Fidelity Investments in Boston recruited her three years ago as a senior risk analyst. She was just promoted to senior risk and insurance specialist at Fidelity, responsible for minimizing risk to

the company and protecting its assets through various methods including insurance and risk transfer.

A finance major, Donna likes the diversity of the field. "You can go a lot of ways with it after you graduate. Finance gives you a broad range of employment avenues to pursue," she says. Donna did an internship at E.F. Hutton one summer, thinking she might want to be a stock-

## ALICIA ALMAGRO '88

The bright lights of the big city beckoned when Alicia Almagro graduated from Bryant. Armed with a double major in accounting and finance, she headed to New York City and a job at Chase Manhattan Bank.



Starting in Chase Manhattan's management development program, Alicia moved into auditing and then to the western hemisphere risk management area. She is now a second vice president, doing risk analysis for Latin America.

The international aspect of Alicia's job is probably the most

exciting, she says. She travels about 50 percent of the time, most often to cities like Caracas, Venezuela; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Mexico City, Mexico. Speaking Spanish helps, of course.

"Your job's important," Alicia says, "but so is getting out and taking advantage of where you are. Cities have so much to offer, so many chances for personal growth. I'm still growing, doing things like mastering the art of pottery, racing sailboats, and assisting world-renowned chefs. Living in Manhattan right out of school was a great move for me."

"Bryant helped me get ready. There's a real diversity of people there with different interests. The social skills I developed at Bryant made it easy to meet people in other places."

Alicia chose Bryant for a lot of different reasons: the people ("There were people like myself there"); the campus ("It sells itself"); and the curriculum ("I got to take business courses my first year; that's unusual").

"At Bryant, more than anything, you learn to think," Alicia says. "You learn how to get things done well in the least amount of time using the fewest resources. That's what the business world is all about."

broker. "The experience showed me that wasn't what I wanted to do with my career. It's good to try things to see what you like."

"I'm working on my MBA now," she adds. "I'm doing very well so far and feel well prepared for my classes. Bryant gave me a solid background."

Donna transferred to Bryant from Western New England College, near her hometown of Springfield, Mass. It was a good move. "I loved Bryant. The teachers were very good and they were always willing to help. And the campus is absolutely gorgeous, anybody can see that."

Transfer students at some schools say it's hard to adjust, especially socially, but Donna didn't find that at Bryant. "I made a lot of close friends at Bryant. It's easy to make friends there, especially because of the living arrangements. The suites and townhouses really contribute to it." She's speaking from experience; Donna has kept up with many college friends and now lives in West Roxbury with one of her Bryant townhouse mates.



When Susan Wyllie started college she didn't know what she wanted to do for a career. She knew she wanted to be in business, but wasn't sure how. So she went to Bryant for its strong business programs and the "close community atmosphere."

One year out of school, this management major is the assistant director of materials management for South County Hospital in Wakefield, RI. She helps manage central supply, purchasing, and receiving, and works in those areas when needed. "When I fill in for people I learn a lot," she says. "It's good for management to learn to do the things the people they supervise do."

"There's no such thing as a typical day. I have projects to work on, but then emergencies come up. I never get bored, and don't think I ever will. The field is constantly changing." Susan plans to advance in the field and has been accepted into Bryant's MBA program in health care management.

Medicine has always interested Susan. ("I'm one of those people who watches documentaries about surgery on educational television.") She chose health care because it

would let her combine management with working with people. During winter break of her senior year, Susan did an internship in the quality assurance department of a hospital in her native Vermont. "I did an internship to test whether I could actually stick with health care and I loved it!" Her faculty advisor, an authority on health care, helped her arrange the internship.

A campus work study job also helped Susan get ready for her career. Working in Bryant's advertising department, she became familiar with purchasing procedures, a fact that helped her on interviews for her current job. Her dealings with College administrators and vendors let her develop a professional demeanor early. And then there were the friendships; Susan still socializes with her former supervisors.

Susan thinks everyone should "try different fields, find out what's out there. If you know what you want, get an internship. It confirms whether or not you want to stay in that field. Plus it lets you get to know people in the profession and it helps with job leads." Good advice from a woman who should know.



GRETCHEN  
HOFMANN '83

Mexico City is the town Gretchen Hofmann now calls home. The Ridgefield, Conn., native is in Mexico on a two-year assignment for her new company, J. Walter Thompson, one of the top three advertising agencies in the world.

A vice president at J. Walter Thompson, Gretchen's major account is Kellogg Cereals. She was recruited away from BBDO, another top agency where last year she was promoted to vice president, having started in their New York City office right after graduation.

Talented and self-assured, Gretchen found many of her tools for success at Bryant. "I walked out of Bryant with the confidence that I could pretty much get anything I was looking for, as long as I was willing to work for it," she says.

"Bryant fosters independence in its students, individual freedom, and individual responsibility. My Bryant education and experience helped me develop business and personal skills that I use every day."

Gretchen came to Bryant with her goals set. The daughter of an advertising executive, she says, "I knew I wanted advertising and I knew I wanted New York." She majored in marketing, focused on advertising, and has never looked back.

While advertising used to be an "Old Boys' Club," that's changing, Gretchen says. "As the industry becomes more competitive, people who are best at what they do rise to the top, no matter what the circumstances."

PAMELA FALES MCGAHA '82



Though she may not have known it at the time, Pam McGaha's student internship was a big step in her personal and professional life. A computer information systems major, she did an internship with Texas Instruments in Attleboro, Mass., the summer between her junior and senior years at Bryant. It was a good fit and Pam continued to work there part time during her senior year.

When she was offered a job upon graduation, Pam asked to be transferred to the company's Texas office (this Vermont native liked the warmer weather). She is now a technology specialist for Texas Instruments at their Plano, Texas, location.

"I love my job because I get to do so many things," Pam says. "I travel a lot, do presentations, work with customers. I really enjoy working with customers, teaching them things, seeing that light go on in their eyes. That's why my job is so exciting."

Work is very important to Pam, but it's not everything. "You're not on this earth to work, you're here to live," she says. "You can set your own goals; you don't have to let the company set them for you. I run at lunch and take time for myself. I'm more alive in the afternoon that way. Sometimes I put in extra hours because I'm really excited about something, but I don't have to."

Pam has changed jobs four times in her ten years at Texas Instruments, always staying in software. "In a big company you can try new things without having to change companies. You don't want to be stagnant." She advises young women to be open to new things, too. "Go to school and find out what you're good at," she says.

Pam met her husband, Mike, at Texas Instruments. While they don't have children yet, she's confident she will be able to balance a career and family. "But both people have to work at it," she says.

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