



## Hochberg Women's Center History

What some people may not know is that the Gertrude Meth Hochberg Women's Center is a relatively new addition to the Bryant campus. Several years ago, a group of faculty and staff began to promote the idea of a Women's Center on campus. The existence of an identifiable space devoted to women's issues, the group felt, would strengthen Bryant's commitment to one of its strategic goals: Working toward gender balance within the student population. On March 27, 2002, the Women's Center opened its doors.



## Naming of the Women's Center

In March of 2011 the director of the Women's Center, along with several faculty and staff members, believed it was fitting to pay tribute to one of Bryant's own female pioneers who broke the glass ceiling and paved the way for the women of our University – Gertrude Meth Hochberg, by naming the center in her honor. Gertrude was an ardent advocate for women's equality and achieved many "firsts" during her accomplished career as Vice President of Public Relations at Bryant which spanned from 1949-1977. Not only was she the first female vice president of a college or university in Rhode Island, but she was also the moving force behind Bryant's first Commencement address given by a woman.

Gertrude helped to promote the University's focus on educating and empowering women to achieve fulfilling careers – a continuous theme in Bryant's history. A consummate professional and a devoted mother and wife, she served as a great mentor and role model, helping women realize that achieving a balance between a career and a loving family can indeed be accomplished.



# Bryant University

