

About the Bunting Program

Mary I. Bunting, a former Dean of Douglass, established the Mary I. Bunting Program in 1958 to recognize the needs of women who wish to complete college, either part-time or full-time, later in their lives and careers. The Bunting Program recognizes the time constraints and needs of adult students. The program, now an integral part of Douglass Residential College, provides individualized mentoring on top of the advising that students receive through their Rutgers undergraduate schools.

The Experience

Students in the Mary I. Bunting program live and learn together in a specialized community.

- The Sophia House, a 12-month housing community specifically for Bunting women who wish to live on campus.
- The Sophia Club is open to all Bunting women. This organization is run for and by Bunting students, fostering community and addressing the unique needs of adult learners.

Resources

Bunting students have access a variety of resources that help them acclimate to college at various stages of life.

- A dedicated lounge in the Douglass Campus Center. The lounge provides a microwave and refrigerator, as well as tables, chairs, and couches for studying or chatting between classes.
- The opportunity to receive the Charlotte W. Newcombe scholarship, an opportunity specifically for adult learners.
- Mentoring, career planning, and personal support that focuses on adult women's lifestyles and needs.
- A Bunting peer advisor, in addition to the program director, to assist students over email, phone, or in person with their transition to Rutgers.
- Bunting students with children can access early registration to build their class schedules around childcare responsibilities

Katherine Tapia DRC'20, a Douglass alumna, Bunting Program graduate, and mother, who is now pursuing a Ph.D.

