

40 UNDER FORTY 2005

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Bettyjo Bouchee

Dean, ITT Technical Institute

At 32, Bettyjo Bouchee needs more than one page to her resume.

Bouchee has worked her way around the local tech sector.

After her introduction to the technology business at Flow Management Technologies Inc., Bouchee worked at ThinkOne, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and VersaTrans, where she created and managed Veracast, the company's first division.

Bouchee is now dean of the ITT Technical Institute, a new job she is getting settled into.

Bouchee is eager to bring her entrepreneurial spirit to ITT. "Having an entrepreneurial spirit doesn't mean you have to go out and start a business; but what it means to me is that I'm not afraid to speak up, try new things and take chances, not afraid to listen to my gut and I believe firmly in going for the gold every time."

The new job is not the only new development in Bouchee's life.

Last August, she gave birth to her son, Gavin Walker.

It was also a tough decision to take on motherhood because of what she sees as the "mommy-track stigma" attached to working women who aren't at the top yet.

"Having a child at this point in my career could be viewed as a lateral move," she says, "but I am confident I will continue to grow and improve because of my child, not in spite of him. I think it's too bad that some women think they have to choose, or their employers make them choose. I am a guilt-free working mother because I know that I can be a better mother if I am fulfilled and have a career that is on track. These are the factors of my life that allow me to be available for my son completely when I am home."

Saluting this years "40 under Forty" Congratulations!



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