

donlife



For Students

August 16, 2023



Gia Casaburo, director of the Center for Student Counseling at Purdue Fort Wayne, sat down with Inside PFW to discuss the expanded services.

New Counseling Center Opening to Better Address Student Needs: Open House This Afternoon

As it strives to meet the individual needs of students campus-wide, Purdue University Fort Wayne is showcasing its new **Center for Student Counseling** with an open house from 3 to 6 p.m. Wednesday. The center is located on the ground floor of Kettler Hall at the end of the corridor between the Department of Anthropology and Einstein Bros. Bagels.

The goal is to provide more services to students by offering greater flexibility and improved access.

“I think it’s becoming more normal to voice if something is going on or to be more open about any mental health concerns you may have,” said Gia Casaburo, the center’s director who received a master’s degree from the university in 2018. “I believe there is still a lot of pressure within being a college student, and sometimes there are concerns about sharing going on.”

The expanded services are free to students, and they are allowed an unlimited number of counseling visits. The center will

officially open on Monday, though some students have already started scheduling appointments, which can be handled by calling 260-481-6200 or by visiting the center's [new website](#).

READ MORE

Campus Health Clinic Transition Finds New Provider in One to One Health

At its meeting on Aug. 4, the Purdue University Board of Trustees approved One to One Health opening a new and improved PFW Center for Healthy Living to replace the former Campus Health Clinic, which remains temporarily closed during this transition. The Center for Healthy Living is expected to open near the end of the fall semester.

The university is working hard to provide excellent services for all those who choose to receive care at this on-campus location. The new center will offer a wide range of services to treat common illnesses, manage chronic conditions, provide preventive care, and promote overall health. Additionally, the center will offer comprehensive lab services—preventive screenings and diagnostic testing—via One to One Health's Tier 1 lab services.

This location at Walb Student Union, Room 234, will remain closed during a renovation of the space, and while new clinical staff is being hired. Some students may need to make alternate arrangements during this time.

If you require continued care through a Lutheran Health provider, call toll-free 833-546-4968 to explore options. To request a copy of medical records, call 260-435-7013. Additional questions about [local healthcare options](#) may be directed to the Human Resources office at 260-481-6840 or hr@pfw.edu; or Amy Jagger, HR benefits director, at 260-481-6096 or jaggera@pfw.edu.

A sneak peek open house featuring professional renderings of what the remodeled space will look like is being planned for the near future. Stay tuned for more details.



New and Favorite Events Ready for Campus Kickoff Week

As Purdue University Fort Wayne nears the start of its fall semester on Monday, the **Student Activities Board** is filling the calendar with continuing favorites and a few surprises. They start Sunday with S'mores from 7 to 9 p.m. at **Student Housing on the Waterfield Campus**, an event that includes a movie, lawn games, and fire pits to allow students to reconnect and meet new friends.

The following day, the annual Campus Kickoff launches with lunch on the **Science Mall** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. featuring pulled-pork and chicken sandwiches, T-shirts with new colors for 2023, lawn games, and maybe even a dunk tank. Last year, over 1,000 students attended. All the action is free.

[READ MORE](#)

New and Returning Student Surveys Offer Chance to Reflect and Be Heard

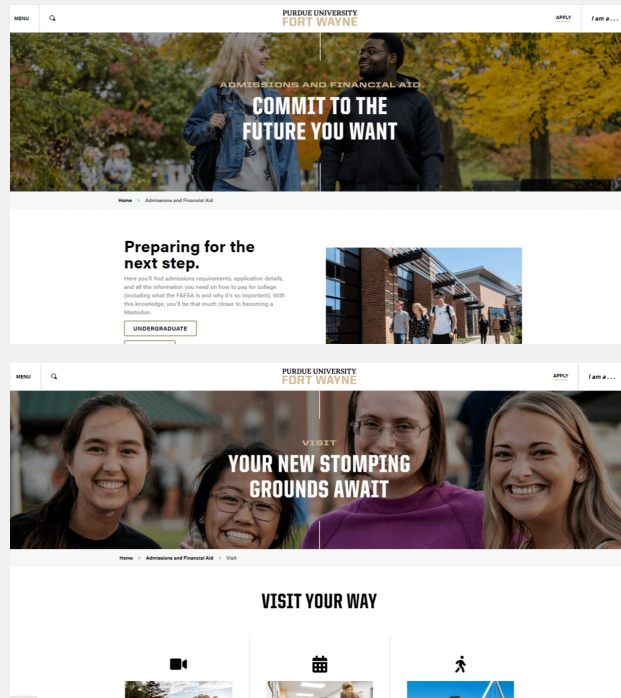
Two surveys will soon be coming to all students—one for new students and one for returning students. The New Student Survey will give our newest Mastodons the opportunity to think about their future goals and how Purdue Fort Wayne can help achieve them. The Returning Student Survey will give all other students the opportunity to reflect about their time at the university so far and their goals after graduation.

Both surveys will allow you to share your responses with specific people on campus so that you can talk with them about your goals. At the end, you'll also be able to see a summary of how other students at Purdue Fort Wayne responded.

Both surveys will open on Aug. 28 and remain active through noon on Sept. 30.

The emails will be sent to PFW addresses from pfw@hedsconsortium.org. Each email will have a unique survey link, so please don't share yours.

If you have any questions about the survey, contact Lindsey Dutrieux, research analyst, at dutrieul@pfw.edu or Irah Modry-Caron, executive director of institutional research, at modryi@pfw.edu.



Academic Year Begins with Numerous Website Launches

The Office of Communications and Marketing, in close collaboration with campus partners, launched an impressive group of 15 new websites this week.

As part of the ongoing online communications project, these sites—some new and some reenvisioned—support undergraduate and graduate student recruitment and include critically important new sites that focus on safety and security and student counseling.

This launch comes at an ideal time. With the beginning of both a new academic year and the next student recruiting cycle, it was crucial to create new sites that are designed with the user experience front and center. Visitors will be met with critically important information that's well organized and easy to navigate—and that encourages engagement. Take a look at these new sites:

[Admissions and Financial Aid Landing Page](#)

[Admitted Students](#)

[Apply](#)

[Campus Safety and Security](#)

[Center for Student Counseling](#)

[Financial Aid](#)

[Graduate Admissions](#)

[International Admissions](#)

[New Student Programs](#)

[Parent or Family Member Landing Page](#)

[Request for Information](#)
[Student Housing](#)
[Transfer Student Admissions](#)
[Undergraduate Admissions](#)
[Visit](#)

These sites provide a wealth of information, resources, and ongoing support for all users. The impact they will have on prospective and current students, their families, and the campus community is immense and reflective of the important and engaging work that takes place in each of these areas.

Follow Purdue Fort Wayne on Social Media

The university's social media platforms are just a few of the tools in its digital toolbox that help you stay connected. If you're not already, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [X](#) to learn about the latest events, be in the know about important updates, read stories about students and faculty, and see plenty of those uniquely beautiful campus photos.

Herd That

The student experience is a big part of who we are as Mastodons. Here's one of our stories.



Exchange Student Ready for Long 'Winter' of International Study

According to John Jensen, Purdue University Fort Wayne's director of the **Study Abroad Program** and its **National Student Exchange program**, 34 Mastodons participated in international programs this summer. The destinations included Costa Rica, Italy, France, Greece, Spain, and China.

And this fall, two more students are headed abroad—one to the United Arab Emirates and another to Argentina. Junior political science major Bobby Way left July 29 to head into South America's winter. It's just his luck that he'll be returning in late November to start North America's cold season.

Way is so excited, he couldn't care less what the temperature is in Buenos Aires.

[READ MORE](#)

Don Dates

There's always plenty to do at Purdue Fort Wayne. To find your favorites—or discover new activities—check the **Don Dates** website often to see what's happening on campus.

AUGUST

20

Sun., 7–9 p.m.

S'mores Night

Come out for some fun lawn games and yummy s'mores! It's a great way to reconnect with old friends and to make new ones...

AUGUST

21

Mon., 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Campus Kickoff

Kick it with Student Activities Board! We have inflatables, free food, and an awesome T-shirt...

AUGUST

22

Tues., 5-7 p.m.

DEI Welcome Back Block Party

Join students and staff as we welcome everyone back to campus. Enjoy free food and music while having lots of fun at this Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion back to school block party...

News Spotlight

A sampling of external news coverage of Purdue University Fort Wayne.

AI usages evolving constantly, local schools explain usage

Local and state media | Aug. 9

As the climate crisis grows, experts discuss how to help climate refugees

wfla.com Tampa | Aug. 10

Mastodon Moments

Seen and noted around campus. Monitor our university social feeds for more great moments of Mastodon life.



Awaiting the arrival of a friend to discuss the upcoming semester, computer science student Shatarupa Ghosh enjoys some shade and a summer breeze.

Athletics



Don Dates



News Center



Don Life is an official university communication sent weekly on Wednesday to all currently enrolled students. Don Life Special Edition is a supplement to the regularly scheduled newsletter. It covers breaking news and time-sensitive information directly related to university operations.

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