



Jenna Hoppe is the senior director of the First Year Advising Center.

First Year Advising Center Evolving to Help Mentor Students

Getting off to a good start is the goal of all students, especially those who are entering the world of higher education for the first time. Purdue University Fort Wayne understands that and is always working to help its Dons get the most from their college experiences. The latest example of this is the **First Year Advising Center**, which is a reimagined and retooled successor to the former Student Advising and Advocacy Center.

According to Jenna Hoppe, the center's senior director, as many as 75% of students switch majors from their initial choice. One of the center's goals is to help make that process more efficient, hopefully saving students time and money. The philosophy change has been developed over about five years and implemented over the last year.

[READ STORY](#)



RSVP for the Mastodon Family Picnic

Celebrate the Herd at PFW's second annual picnic for faculty, staff, and their families—the **Mastodon Family Picnic**. Mark your calendars for Oct. 1 from 1 to 4 p.m. on the Alumni Plaza, next to the Mastodon Statue.

In addition to traditional picnic fare and fun games for everyone, you can catch live music from the Fort Wayne Funk Orchestra, a local band known for their funk, hip-hop, rap, and soul tunes. The Mastodon Watering Hole will also have a cash bar for guests 21 and older. [Click here](#) to visit the event website to learn more.

RSVP by Sept. 26.

Gauging Future Interest in the PFW License Plate

The Mastodon Alumni Community would like to hear from former and future purchasers of a Purdue University Fort Wayne license plate to see if there's enough interest to have this return as an Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles Special Group Recognition option.

More than 175 PFW alumni, supporters, and employees were notified beginning in March that the PFW plate option would no longer be offered—the BMV requires 500 or more purchased plates for a group to remain on the list. Recognizing that some recent alumni and employees may not have known about this option, the alumni engagement team invites those interested in seeing a return of the PFW plate to email alumni@pfw.edu to express their willingness to sign an application pledging to buy a plate in the future.

It's estimated that the BMV would consider returning the PFW license plate to the group rotation between one and two years

after an application with at least 500 commitments is submitted by the university and approved. Development of a scholarship program specifically designating future proceeds from PFW plate sales is also being explored.

Volunteers Needed for Military Appreciation Day



Military Student Services will host Military Appreciation Day on Sept. 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will honor campus veterans and military-affiliated students, staff, and faculty. A few more volunteers are needed to help make this annual

observance successful. [Sign up here.](#)

The goal is to help bridge the gap between military/veteran students and more traditional students. There will also be several demonstrations, activities, and events that will provide an opportunity to learn about the university's military/veteran community.

Contact Nicole Welsh at welsnr01@pfw.edu for more information.

Good to Know

New HR FAQ Page

Human Resources and Office of Institutional Equity has added a [FAQ page](#) to its website that addresses common questions that employees may have.

Payroll Drop-in Hours

The payroll team will host drop-in hours on Aug. 22, 24, 29, and 31 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Purdue Fort Wayne Music Center, Room 235. Employees are encouraged to attend if they have anything they would like to discuss.

Featured Events

There's always plenty to do at Purdue Fort Wayne. Some opportunities are exclusive to university employees and their families. Check the full [events calendar](#) often to see what's happening on campus.

AUGUST

24

Thurs., 11:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

WellRec and the American Red Cross are inviting all healthy and eligible individuals to give blood at the Red Cross Bloodmobile...

AUGUST

25

Fri., noon–3 p.m.

Food Truck Friday

Grab some lunch from one of the local food trucks that will be parked near the skybridge that connects Helmke Library and Walb Student Union...

In a Snap

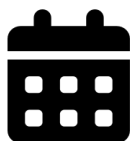
Seen and noted around campus. Monitor our university social feeds for more great moments of Mastodon life.



Students could duke it out in an inflatable boxing ring on Monday, one of many fun activities at Campus Kickoff.



Events Calendar



Athletics



Ripples



Inside PFW is an official university communication for faculty and staff. All submissions should be sent to inside@pfw.edu no later than 2 p.m. on the day prior to the next edition to be considered for inclusion. Newsletter guidelines can be accessed in the [PFW News Center](#).

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PURDUE UNIVERSITY
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