



Choi-Frank Award Aims to Help Students with Childcare Costs

As an associate professor in the Department of Management and Marketing in the Doermer School of Business, Sheena Choi empathizes with students who have children.

“We are a non-traditional campus, and I have students who have a full-time job, family and children, and then they are also full-time students,” Choi said. “I just think, ‘You are a super human being. I don’t know how you can manage that.’”

With the help of her husband, Bill Frank, Choi decided to help, instituting The Choi-Frank Students as Parents Childcare Support Award. After announcing a \$30,000 gift during Purdue University Fort Wayne’s Day of Giving in April, the program started this semester with 10 awards of \$500 for students to use to pay for childcare. The awards are renewable each semester.

[READ STORY](#)



Campus Initiative Helps Expectant Mothers with Parking

As part of its ongoing effort to meet the unique needs of its students, Purdue University Fort Wayne has designated with new signage 10 parking spaces across campus for expectant mothers. The spots, an initiative of Christine Marcuccilli, director of compliance and the Title IX coordinator, are near the entrances of major academic buildings.

“I was noticing an increase in the number of students who were requesting pregnancy modifications, such as excused absences,” Marcuccilli said. “Based on the increase, I was trying to think of how else we could assist our pregnant parents and students. As a parent myself, I knew parking spaces like this were something very helpful to me when I was expecting.”

[READ STORY](#)



Next Omnibus Speaker Series Kicking Off Sept. 21 with Rainn Wilson

The 28th season of Purdue University Fort Wayne’s popular Omnibus Speaker Series will entertain and inform the university community with topics that explore national politics, artificial intelligence, presidential history, breaking through NFL barriers, and how one famous actor turned his “office” experiences into discussions that dig deep into some of life’s biggest questions.

The 2023–24 lineup includes:

- “An Evening with **Rainn Wilson**” | Sept. 21
- “How AI/ChatGPT is Shaping the Cyber Landscape” | **Theresa Payton** | Nov. 7
- “Political Outlook: A Comprehensive Picture of What’s Going on In Washington” | **Donna Brazile** | Feb. 29
- “Breaking Through: My Journey to Becoming the First Female NFL Official” | **Sarah Thomas** | March 26
- “What History Can Predict about Our American Political Future” | **Michael Beschloss** | April 25

For more information about the series itself, visit PFW.edu/omnibus.

READ RELEASE

Learn More about PFW Student-Athletes: Register for DonZone Training

Would you like to know more about Mastodon Athletics? Register for **DonZone training** on Sept. 19. DonZone training is a program developed specifically for PFW faculty, staff, and administration to help you better understand our student-athletes and the athletics programs in which they participate.

Topics that will be covered include the history of, and interesting facts, about PFW’s athletics programs, a profile of the student-athlete population, the Mastodon Academic Performance Center, academic requirements and NCAA compliance, and game day operations.

Participants will experience:

- 3–5 p.m. | DonZone training in the Mastodon Academic Performance Center, located in the Gates Sports Center
- 5–5:45 p.m. | Food before the women's volleyball game vs. Oakland
- 6 p.m. Women's volleyball game and academic recognition night in the Gates Sports Center

Questions? Contact Michelle Parker, associate professor of practice in information technology, faculty athletics representative, at parkerm@pfw.edu.

RSVP HERE

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

31

Thurs., 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Connections Fair

Meet our outstanding student orgs as well as some local organizations...

SEPTEMBER

1

Fri., 7–11 p.m.

Spielfreaks Campus/Community Game Night

WellRec has partnered with the Spielfreaks community gaming group to bring you tabletop game nights on the first Friday of every month, all year round. No need to register—show up ready to play..

SEPTEMBER

25

Fri., 2–3:30 p.m.

DEI Reading Group

Join the Hispanic Heritage Month DEI reading group in September. Sign up to read “It is Wood, It is Stone,” then join other readers on Sept.25 to discuss the book and themes. The first 10 to register will receive a copy of the book...

On the Job

Check out the new faces in new places.

New Hires

- Robert Bogle, senior turf technician | Grounds
- Phillip Duke, HVAC mechanic | Operations and Maintenance
- Don Williams, custodian | Building Services

Transfers

- Kim De Leon, director of SIS | Student Information System Support
- Kate Long, coordinator | Office of Student Conduct and Care
- Allie Maas, assistant director of student activities | Student Life

News Spotlight

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

Commuter campus? Purdue Fort Wayne leader says that image is outdated

The Journal Gazette (subscription required) | Saturday

Top 10 public Indiana colleges according to US News and World Report

WANE 15 | Aug. 23

In a Snap

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



Director Cicelle Beemon offered goodies and answered questions at The Women's Center open house on Friday.

News Center



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 by [clicking here](#).

Inside PFW is produced twice weekly on Tuesday and Thursday by the Office of Communications and Marketing. *Inside PFW 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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