



Payton Offers Cybersecurity Advice during Omnibus Presentation

To illustrate a point during an classroom session Tuesday afternoon, technology and cybersecurity expert Theresa Payton was talking about how artificial intelligence is exploding into many parts of our existence.

“If I want to know what the weather is before I go on my run this morning, I could look up the news, or turn on the news, or ask Siri,” Payton said as an example.

Within seconds, a voice piped up from her phone sitting 10 feet away, “It is currently 54 degrees.” Once the students stopped laughing, Payton said, “They are always listening, always listening.”

Later in the evening, Payton took her turn as the second presenter in the 2023–24 Purdue University Fort Wayne Omnibus Speaker Series at Auer Performance Hall. Most casual internet users have no idea about the predominance of artificial intelligence in their lives, but the former chief information officer in the George W. Bush White House warned her audiences about how AI helps cybercriminals. They often use tools such as voice imitation, manipulation, and misinformation to rob their victims.

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Learning Experiences Key Focus of Farm to School Summit

Teachers are supposed to inspire their students, but it also works in reverse, which is why Purdue University Fort Wayne will host its first-ever **Farm to School Summit** on Nov. 14. Sponsored by the School of Education and starting at 2 p.m. in the Classic Ballroom at Walb Student Union, the event gathers local experts to discuss the possibilities for getting local food into schools and institutions, sustainable food systems, and the importance of providing learning experiences for children at area gardens and farms.

“I just feel like this generation is much more environmentally aware,” said Julia Smith, PFW assistant professor of early childhood development. “These young people are coming out and speaking up for the environment. If we can give them some ideas of ways where they can push back a little bit against that more conventional thinking in education, they might just say, ‘Hey, let’s go back to the basics and look at the beautiful environment we have and how can we teach from this?’”

Topics at the summit include school gardens, food and farming curriculum, and local food procurement in schools. The free event is scheduled to finish by 5:30 p.m.

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Military Student Services Strives to Increase Reach

One of the essential functions of **Military Student Services** at Purdue University Fort Wayne is to help past and present service members transition into higher education. That can mean several different things, including assistance with applications for education benefits, making connections with other campus and community resources, and cultivating a supportive environment by providing positive training for faculty and staff.

It's estimated more than 200 military-affiliated students are taking classes on campus this fall, but there might be more. Some may not know about the office, or they are not using their benefits for their own education, according to Michael Kirchner, director of Military Student Services at Purdue Fort Wayne.

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Student-Photographer Capturing Highlights of PFW Journey

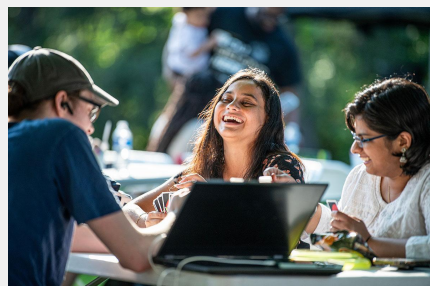
As someone who grew up in the Philippines, Aurea Alconera says, “Outside America, people would always say America is a dream come true.”

Alconera has found that sentiment to be accurate, especially during her time at Purdue University Fort Wayne. Now she’s documenting her experiences as a Mastodon with her camera to show others how great PFW and America are.

The junior and other PFW first-generation college students will be highlighted at a “First-Generation Celebration” on Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Classic Ballroom at Walb Student Union. The event will include lunch, photos, and a panel discussion.

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First-Year Students and Others up Next for Early Registration



Monday, starting at 8 a.m., first-year students and others will finally have their chance to take advantage of the opportunity to

register early for the spring 2024 semester. Patience is definitely a virtue.

Early registration is a great way to get the classes you want at the times you need. It's also not too late to meet with your advisor so they can answer any questions you may have and make sure you're on the right track to your degree.



Student Research and Creative Endeavor Symposium Information Workshops Next Week

All interested undergraduate and graduate students are invited to attend one of the information workshops to learn about the **27th Annual Student Research and Creative Endeavor Symposium**. Don't miss out on a fantastic opportunity to showcase your projects.

This event highlights the incredible work undertaken by our talented students, providing a platform for you to present your research and creative projects through poster presentations at the symposium on March 22.

Workshops will be held in the Honors Center at Helmke Library, Room 212, on these days:

- Nov. 15 | noon-1 p.m.
- Nov. 16 | 11 a.m.-noon

As an added bonus, free pizza will be provided—so bring your appetite for fascinating conversations, inspiring projects, and delicious food. For any questions or further information, **check out the website**.



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Check Out the *Don Life* Archive for Recent and Back Issues

We've all done it—you make a mental note to read something later and then can't find the email in your overflowing inbox. If that item was in your *Don Life* student newsletter, there's an easy way to track down recent and back issues all in one place. Simply bookmark the [Don Life archive](#). A link to the archive is also located at the bottom of the [News Center](#) and on the Current Student page accessible via the I am a . . . dropdown box on the upper-right corner of the university [homepage](#).

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.

NOVEMBER

8

Today, 2:30–3:30 p.m.

Debt Demolition

Learn simple steps to pay off debt and move toward a solid financial future. Sponsored by Fort Financial and PFW Financial Aid...

NOVEMBER

10, 11

Fri. 7:30 p.m. & Sat. 2:30 p.m.

Two Opera One-Acts: *Slow Dusk* and *Signor Deluso*

Slow Dusk takes place entirely on the front porch of a farm in the Sandhills of the Carolinas and tells the tragic story of Sadie

and Micah, star crossed lovers. *Signor Deluso* is filled with laughs, jealousy, and farce. Through a series of misunderstandings, the lovers Céline and Léon...

NOVEMBER

10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18

8 p.m.; 2 p.m. only on Nov. 12

Urinetown, The Musical

In the not-so-distant future, a terrible water shortage and 20-year drought has led to a government ban on private toilets and a proliferation of paid public toilets, owned and operated by a single megalomaniac company: The Urine Good Company. *Urinetown* is a tale of greed, corruption, love, and...

News Spotlight

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

Experts weigh in on Pence's loss and future

Indiana Public Media | Nov. 1

Why do we feel phantom vibrations from our phones?

WCCO (CBS News Minnesota) | Oct. 30

Mastodon Moments

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



Biology major and student senator Allyssa Hennessey serves up a fluffy dessert to Ron Friedman, dean of the College of Science and professor of physical chemistry, at the well-attended Student Government Association Pie-a-Professor event on Nov. 1.

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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