



For Faculty and Staff

January 30, 2024



Original Mastodon Bones Returning for Campus Display

After sleeping for approximately 14,000 years before being discovered on a Steuben County farm in 1968, the mastodon bones that give Purdue University Fort Wayne its nickname have been tucked away for the last half-decade. Coinciding with the school's 60th anniversary, PFW's original Don is on track to stand tall again later this semester.

The bones were displayed in Kettler Hall from 1984 to 2016 until being removed during a building renovation. Most were examined, wrapped carefully, and hidden away, while parts were sent for further study to the University of Michigan two years later.

Ever since, there's been a behind-the-scenes push to build another public display. Ben Dattilo, professor of geology, and Scott Bergeson, assistant professor of biology, have been the de facto caretakers, but gaining momentum for the project was difficult.

During the 2022-23 academic year, Student Government Association leaders pushed through \$200,000 in capital funding for a first-floor display case near the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union. The tentative goal is to complete the mastodon's enshrinement in April.

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Crisler Celebrated as PFW's Second Indiana Poet Laureate

When Purdue University Fort Wayne's Curtis L. Crisler was a student on campus, he once walked into the office of George Kalamaras, tossed some of his work onto the professor's desk and asked, "Am I a poet?"

"George stated, 'Your work is about love!' And I knew he got it. Yet, he couldn't tell me I was a poet," Crisler recalled. "It was up to me to find that out."

There's no doubt now that Crisler's a real—and great—poet, acknowledged by his peers on Thursday after being named **Indiana's Poet Laureate** by a committee made up of representatives from seven universities and colleges across the state and the Indiana Arts Commission's executive director. The committee's decision was unanimous.

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3 Weeks Left to Secure Seat for Employee Recognition Gala on March 14

Purdue Fort Wayne is combining various recognition events for staff and faculty this spring into one evening gala in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union. New this year, those reaching service milestones, retirees, featured faculty award recipients, and APSAC and CCSAC excellence award winners will all be honored at the dinner. Each will be presented with beautiful, newly designed awards that represent the PFW spirit and celebrate its dedicated employees.

Honorees have received personal invitations to the **2024 Employee Recognition Dinner**, which is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

This year's event is being presented free of charge and is open to all PFW employees who wish to show their appreciation. Registrations may be made via the **event webpage** and must be submitted no later than Feb. 20.

Any PFW employee who has received a recent degree is also invited to be listed in the event program. Those interested should email Alicia Mahoney, senior administrative assistant for HR/OIE, at **armahone@pfw.edu** by Feb. 9.

Additional questions may be sent to **hr@pfw.edu**.

Discover the Gartner Campus Access Program

The Gartner® Campus Access program provides current Purdue students, faculty, and staff unlimited access to Gartner's IT research library, which helps translate complex IT issues into comprehensive advice and meaningful analysis. Users can explore technology and market trends, IT careers, and tech-enabled business strategies from across the world 24/7 through **Purdue's university portal**.

Program highlights:

- **Faculty** are empowered with current IT trends to bring real-world, complex issues into the classroom.
- **Students** gain insight on the current trends in technology, information technology management, business issues, organizations, strategy as well as a global perspective on the IT industry.
- **Leadership and staff** obtain information on how to improve infrastructure, validate technology decisions, analyze trends and understand best practices.

Gartner-specific research methodologies include Magic Quadrants™ and Hype Cycles™ to view how technology stakeholders are positioned within a specific market and to interpret the hype around new technologies to determine what is commercially viable. In addition to the research library, users have access to several monthly webinars.

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Support Submissions to Journal of Purdue Undergraduate Research

Faculty members who are mentoring student research/creative endeavors should consider encouraging students to submit their work to the **Journal of Purdue Undergraduate Research**, a peer-reviewed journal published by Purdue West Lafayette and open to undergraduates system-wide.

Recently, Purdue University Fort Wayne has increased its involvement with the journal, including adding PFW students to the student editorial board—two during 2022–23, and six in 2023–24. Research from PFW regularly makes it into the JPUR. Three articles from the disciplines of math, CSD/ILCS collaboration, and English are included in the **current issue**.

The spring submission deadline is Feb. 15. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Eventful

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

JANUARY

31

Wed., 7:30–9:30 p.m.

Guest Artist Robert Satterlee, Piano

Pianist Robert Satterlee's program will present a "musical kaleidoscope," consisting of several short pieces in a variety of moods and textures, spanning a large time frame, from the 1400's to the present day, and including two pieces newly written for the program...

FEBRUARY

1

Thurs., 4:30–6:30 p.m.

Opening Reception, Creative Art Exhibition

This exhibition will feature 44 creative works by 22 members of the PFW community. A variety of mediums will be featured such as drawings, paintings, fiber art, sculpture, photography, glass, and wood. Each work will be for sale and all proceeds will go to the Department of Art and Design Scholarships...

FEBRUARY

2

Fri., noon–12:30 p.m.

Employee Fitness Class: Chair Yoga

Chair yoga is basically traditional yoga using the support of a chair. Chair yoga is helpful for people who sit for long periods of time or who struggle with stiffness, tense muscles, musculoskeletal pain, balance, or movement challenges...

On the Job

Check out the new faces in new places.

New Hires

- Brandon Etzel, maintenance mechanic | Operations and Maintenance

Transfers

- David Egolf, coordinator of student activities | Student Life

In a Snap

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



Visitors cleared the tables in the Classic Ballroom at Walb Student Union on Friday during the Thrift Swap and Campus Coffee Crawl. The event was sponsored by the Division of Enrollment Management and the Student Experience's engagement board.

News Center



Inside PFW Archive



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](#).

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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