



Psychology major Liv Hope modeled business professional attire at the 2023 fashion show.

Career Development Center Fashion Show Mixes Fun with Function

Though most college students would never consider modeling professionally, some on the campus of Purdue University Fort Wayne don't mind gliding down the runway to help others learn how to dress professionally.

Each year, the **Career Development Center** attracts students who ditch their shyness to demonstrate potential job-interview fashion wearing clothes found in the university's **Mastodon Career Closet**. The fourth "Dressing for Your Success Fashion Show" will be held from 12:30 to 2 p.m. on Thursday in the Classic Ballroom at Walb Student Union. The event is so much fun, sometimes the models come back the following year. There have even been alumni, faculty, and staff participants, but the focus is on current students.

"I love fashion and presenting a story," said Liv Hope, a junior majoring in psychology. "I also love the career center. What drew me to the closet is that they are very inclusive and don't judge what you pick. I like to be more expressive in my appearance and what I like to wear and make a statement."

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Renae Gaff, B.A. '23, gained hands-on experience by interning with Out of a Jam, a local nonprofit.

English Class Students Broaden Their Experiences by Working with Local Nonprofits

Though they approach the work they do from different angles, Beth Keller and the Fort Wayne nonprofits she works with through her English classes try to accomplish similar goals. The Purdue University Fort Wayne associate professor of English is encouraging her students to open themselves to the wider world, and the nonprofits help their clients take advantage of more of what the world has to offer.

In 2018, Keller started assigning students in her upper-level writing for multiple media and project management for writers classes projects to support some of Fort Wayne's 400 or so nonprofit organizations. Groups of students are asked to assess things such as an entity's website engagement or its marketing efforts, while also creating original content and offering suggestions.

"Several students I've taught in these classes over the years have gone on to intern and work for the organizations we've worked with, or ones with similar missions," Keller said. "I want to help students create solid, experience-based portfolios and résumés that help them get the jobs they are qualified for. I'm all about seeing a need, making an opportunity for them to succeed, and then getting out of the way. The work they produce is brilliant!"

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Black Student Union Enjoys Cultural Trip to Nashville

A group of 20 Purdue University Fort Wayne students, staff, and faculty representing the Black Student Union traveled to Nashville, Tennessee, Feb. 2-4 as part of the union's second annual cultural trip. During three days in Music City, the group visited the National Museum of African American Music, the Tennessee State Museum, and Tennessee State University, one of the country's 101 historically Black colleges and universities.

"The energy was just different," said Cicelle Beemon, BSU advisor and program assistant to the Women's Center. "The students were intrigued by how the Tennessee State campus has so much historic culture, as well as the other activities that are student-led."

TSU's marching band has won two Grammy Awards, and the university has produced several Olympic athletes, including Wilma Rudolph, who won three gold medals in 1960.

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Oxford Professor Featured as COS Honorary Invited Lecturer

Michael Dustin, professor of molecular immunology at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom, will be the fifth featured presenter in the College of Science's Honorary Invited Lecturer Series on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Dustin will be speaking on "Parasites: How they ward off attack by our immune system" in Neff Hall, Room 101. The presentation may also be viewed remotely by plugging bit.ly/PFWparasite into a web browser.

Also the director of research at the Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology at Oxford, Dustin is a United States citizen who has taught in the U.K. since 2013. He has received many awards, including being elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2023, and elected to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in 2021.

"Dr. Dustin has been a pioneer in the studies of the immune system, leading to surprising findings that assist in the treatment of human diseases," said Ron Friedman, dean of the College of Science. "When an esteemed faculty member has been invited by a department in COS to meet with faculty and give a departmental seminar, we often extend an invitation to the visitor to also give a general, non-technical evening talk open to the public."

Dustin has a B.A. in biology from Boston University and a Ph.D. in cell and developmental biology from Harvard University. He has led multiple research teams at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and at the New York University School of Medicine continuing work in cell immunology, which has led to many discoveries. While at the NYU School of Medicine, he was also the director of the NIH-funded Nanomedicine Center for Mechanobiology to further advance studies on the immunology synapse and the treatment of human diseases.

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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](#).

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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.

FEBRUARY

26

Mon., 10–11 a.m.

Minds and Methods: A Note-Taking and Test-Taking Strategy Workshop

This workshop will describe various methods of note-taking as well as different apps and technologies that can help you take notes more effectively. It will also focus on test-taking strategies to help you stay calm and focused during exams and quizzes...

FEBRUARY

26

Mon., noon–1:15 p.m.

Panel Discussion: Two Years of War in Ukraine

To commemorate the two year anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Dr. James Toole and Dr. Ann Livschiz conduct a panel discussion. In addition to prepared comments by the panelists, there will be an opportunity to ask questions...

FEBRUARY

Love is in the Air Choral and Band Concert

This concert will feature love songs from multiple musical eras including classics from the Great American Songbook. Featuring Chamber Treble Singers, Choral Union, University Singers, and the Symphonic Band...

News Spotlight

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

PFW's Hartley Hutton headlines 7th Annual WBA Leadership Luncheon

Fort Wayne-area media | Feb. 13

Regionally Speaking: Gary native Curtis L. Crisler named Indiana Poet Laureate

Lakeshore Public Media | Feb. 12

Mastodon Moments

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



Passers-by could relieve stress last Thursday with the "Smash or Pass" car destruction event, held in Parking Lot 8 and sponsored by the Biology Club.

Athletics



Events Calendar



News Center



Don Life Archive



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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