



Computer Science Ace Aiming to Support Others with Her Gifts

As an eighth-grader taking a computer science class in her native India, a confused Yashi Yadav was struggling badly and asked for help. A tutor she connected with helped Yadav develop skills that went on to spark her life's work.

"Everything clicked and he made it so nice," said Yadav, B.S. '23. "It was like putting a puzzle together, and I went from almost failing to getting 90 out of 100. I started fixing all the problems. I love it when the red things go away, and everything works."

Now, as a graduate student studying computer science at Purdue University Fort Wayne, almost everything Yadav tries with a computer works—and she's often the one struggling students turn to for help.

[READ MORE](#)



Cousik One of Eight to Receive Focus Award

Purdue University Fort Wayne's Rama Cousik, an associate professor of special education in the Department of Counseling and Graduate Education, was recently named one of eight winners of a **Purdue University Focus Award**.

Since 2001, the Focus Awards have been presented annually to those affiliated with Purdue who have made an outstanding contribution to the system's commitment to disability accessibility and disability diversity. Awards are presented to faculty, staff, students, and organizations who exemplify this spirit.

Friday's announcement highlighted Cousik's focused efforts on an extensive project exploring undergraduate preservice teacher perspectives of individual learners' needs in the general education curriculum, and that she is writing a book about disabilities, which includes case studies that adopted a strength-based model of educational inclusion. She has also conducted a needs assessment survey of all students on campus, collaborated with campus partners, submitted a research poem, and conducted workshops and webinars related to disability inclusion and accessibility.



After Commencement, It's Time to Party with Our New Grads!

It's never too early to start thinking about what to do after the pomp and circumstance is over on May 8. One way is to help PFW's newest graduates celebrate this momentous occasion. Be sure to stop by the commencement **After-Party** in the Conference Center lobby and Room C at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum to enjoy appetizers and even a cocktail at the cash bar. And be sure to share your own photo station snaps to social media!

Want to skip the crowded restaurants afterward? The Mastodon Alumni Community invites you to the **Chancellor's New Alumni Dinner** in Conference Center rooms D and E. Dinner choices include chicken, beef, and vegetarian plated meals. There is also a cash bar option. Ticket prices for the dinner are \$10 for 2024 graduates and children ages 3-12, and \$25 for adults. Children 2 and under eat for free. [Register for the dinner here.](#)

Please note, you must be 21 years or older to purchase alcoholic drinks at either post-commencement event.

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.

MARCH

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Today, 4:30–6:30 p.m.

Juried Student Art Opening Reception

The opening reception will feature work by students who are currently enrolled in classes in the Department Art and Design at Purdue University Fort Wayne...

MARCH

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Mon., noon–1:30 p.m.

The Importance of Inclusion in Education

This event will shed light on the significance of fostering an inclusive educational environment that celebrates diversity and promotes equality for all...

In a Snap

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



Computer engineering technology student Lauren Fries took a break Tuesday to challenge friends to a game of pool in the upstairs lounge at Walb Student Union.

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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