



\$1.32 Million in Recent Gifts Help Purdue Fort Wayne's Doermer School of Business Continue Transformation

A lot can happen over the span of four months. Granted, in this age of the 24-hour news cycle, an observation like that hasn't been mistaken for a true revelation since the turn of the century – and exactly which century is open for debate – but waves of positive news can generate strong momentum. For example, since Nov. 20, gifts totaling \$1.32 million have been pledged to further the success and growth of the Doermer School of Business at Purdue University Fort Wayne and its students.

Recent commitments from four different sources included:

- Doermer Family Foundation – \$800,000
- English-Bonter-Mitchell Foundation – \$300,000
- Max and Janet Laudeman – \$150,000
- Edward M. & Mary McCrea Wilson Foundation – \$70,000

Money from the first three gifts will help fund a total renovation of the Doermer School of Business Building's second floor. The project has an expected completion date of August 2026. It will allow for the addition of 10 classrooms and the relocation of all

Doermer School of Business faculty and staff from other locations across campus. The Laudeman donation has also been earmarked to fund a matching gift campaign.

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New Entrepreneurship Class Breaks From the Norm to Produce Something Unique

It was opening night of a new business course at Purdue University Fort Wayne and Greg Fenton, CEO of the textbook company RedShelf, a Chicago-based edtech startup, had no idea what he was in for. Fenton was a featured guest recruited to give students a chance to pick the brain of an expert. After an introduction from the professor, the floor opened for student questions. An hour and 10 minutes later, Fenton finally called uncle, saying, "I've got to leave," but not before giving his email address to anyone who wanted to continue the discussion.

That's how the inaugural session of Entrepreneurship and Innovative Design in the Doermer School of Business kicked off this semester. Organizers were hoping for 25 students, but ended up getting 34 for the three-hour class that meets on Tuesday evenings.

"It's good that there's so much energy, because that's why we're here," said MBA student Carrie Vollmer-Sanders. "Professionally, I work on projects like this, but for a company. This is for me."

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Spring Break Trip to London Tunes up Inspiration for Music Students and Professors

The long and winding road for 24 students in the commercial music and music industry programs at Purdue University Fort Wayne included a magical mystery tour of London over spring break.

Along with four faculty members from the School of Music, students explored the artistic and social culture of a city that laid the foundation for music recording and production. Along with sitting in on lectures at The Institute of Contemporary Music Performance, and experiencing a concert at the legendary Royal Albert Hall, there was also a visit to Abbey Road Studios, where some of the greatest songs of all time have been recorded, particularly by The Beatles.

“I’ve found that with a lot of students here, they might feel a little stuck in Fort Wayne and the surrounding region, whether they are looking for jobs, or internships, or what to do after graduation,” said John Buteyn, clinical assistant professor of music; director of popular music, music industry, and music technology programs; and director of Gold Top Music Group. “There are great opportunities in Fort Wayne, but there’s a load of other opportunities out there, and a lot of our students haven’t had the chance to have an international experience like this before.

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Featured Faculty Award recipients William Sauerland, Julia Smith, and John LaMaster with Vice Chancellor Carl Drummond (far left) and Chancellor Ron Elsenbaumer (far right).



Chancellor Ron Elsenbaumer with Tamara Davich, recipient of the CSSAC Excellence Award.



Tom Utnage presents Jason Moyer with the APSAC Excellence Award.



Benjamin Neuhaus, recipient of the CSSAC Excellence Award, and Chancellor Ron Elsenbaumer.

New Recognition Gala Honored Excellence in Teaching, Service

For the first time, Purdue Fort Wayne combined various recognition events for staff and faculty into one evening gala that took place on Thursday in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union. Those who reached service milestones, retirees, and featured faculty award recipients were honored, as well as the All Professional Staff Advisory Council and Campus Support Staff Advisory Committee excellence award winners.

The annual Featured Faculty awards honor faculty members for their outstanding performance in research, scholarly activity, creative endeavors, teaching, or engagement. This year's recipients are:

- Research Excellence: **William Sauerland**, assistant professor, School of Music
- Teaching/Librarianship Excellence: **John LaMaster**, senior instructor, Department of Mathematical Sciences
- Engagement Excellence: **Julia Smith**, assistant professor, Department of Teacher Education

The APSAC Excellence Award winner was **Jason Moyer**, manager support services-mechanical for the School of Polytechnic. **Benjamin Neuhaus**, shipping and receiving, and **Tamara Davich**, administrative assistant for the School of Education, were honored with CSSAC Excellence awards.



Mastodon Women's Basketball to Host Eastern Kentucky in the WNIT Tomorrow Night; Free Tickets with Student ID

The Purdue Fort Wayne women's basketball program will host Eastern Kentucky on Wednesday in the first round of the 2024 Women's National Invitation Tournament. Tip time is set for 7 p.m.

The game will be played on campus at the Gates Sports Center. Tickets are \$15 for the lower-level seats and \$10 for upper-level seats. Tickets for Purdue Fort Wayne students are free with a current ID.

Purchase tickets [here](#).

With a win, the Mastodons will move on to play Cincinnati. The full bracket can be found [here](#).

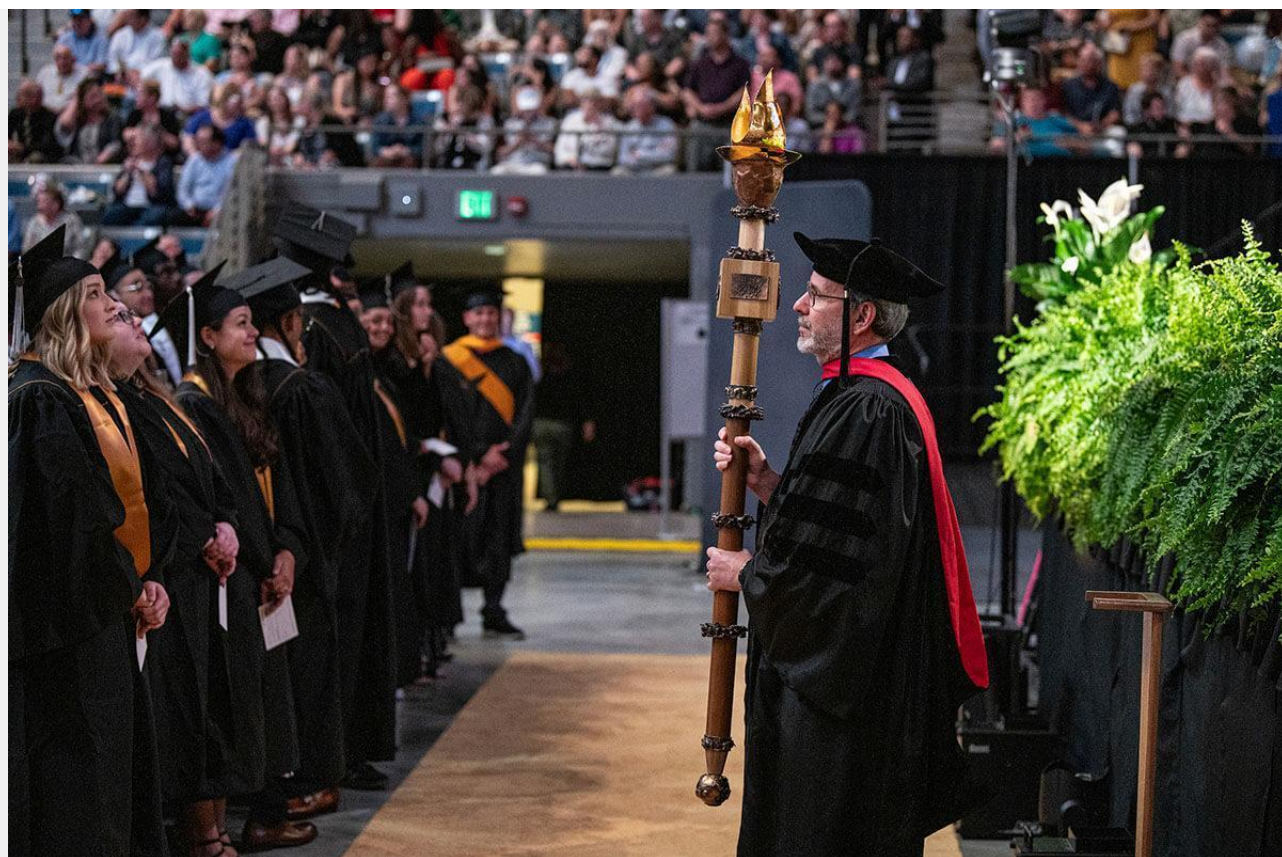
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Meet Chief of Police Candidates on Campus This Week

Three finalists for the chief of police position have been invited to Purdue Fort Wayne this week for on-campus interviews. All sessions will take place from 3 to 4 p.m. in Kettler Hall, Room 146. Faculty and staff are welcome to attend.

- Candidate 1: Today
- Candidate 2: Wednesday
- Candidate 3: Thursday

Physical copies of résumés will be shared before each session. A link to gather feedback will be sent to all those who attend one or more of the forums.



Time Running Out to Order Academic Regalia for Commencement

All faculty and staff are encouraged to take part in Purdue Fort Wayne's 2024 Commencement on Wednesday, May 8, at 4 p.m. in the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum. If you are a faculty member and wish to participate in the ceremony, please [register here](#).

Faculty are asked to wear academic regalia (tams optional) for the ceremony. Those in need of regalia can use this [online form](#); the university will cover the cost of rentals. There will be no on-campus pickup this year, as everything will be shipped directly to recipients and will include a return shipping label. The deadline for orders is April 4.

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, 1:30–2:45 p.m.

Breaking Popular Social Constructs of Addiction and Recovery

TC Spellman, an education coordinator for the YWCA, will join the sociology club to bring to light the true facts and statistics about addiction and recovery...

MARCH

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Thurs., 4–8 p.m.

Human Library

The Human Library is designed to create opportunities and safe spaces where readers can check out human books for a face-to-face conversation. The “books” then share their story with the reader, who has a chance to ask questions about their experiences...

MARCH

22

Fri., 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Student Research and Creative Endeavors Symposium

The campus community is invited to engage with students' poster presentations and celebrate their research and creative endeavors from all disciplinary fields...

In a Snap

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



Students lined up as their favorite characters on Friday at the Indian Student Organization's Bollywood Night.

News Center



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Athletics



Ripples



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