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For Students

August 21, 2024



New Home for Mastodon Bones a True Display of PFW School Spirit

Two years after starting college in 1980, Jon Havens declared geology as his major with no idea of the everlasting impact his decision would have on Purdue University Fort Wayne. Neither did Haven's friend, Dan Brinkman, or Mike Stoller, who graduated in 2018, and more recently Whitney Hadley-Salay, B.A. '23, but their efforts are now prominently reflected on campus in a display that should endure for generations to come.

These are four students representing dozens who helped showcase and preserve the original mastodon bones from which the university gets its nickname. A display of the bones was mounted last week in the hallway between the International Ballroom and the new Herd Hideout at Walb Student Union.

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Major Traffic Alert for Coliseum Boulevard Entrance to Main Campus

With Monday's start of the fall semester rapidly approaching, there's a major traffic alert the entire campus community must be aware of.

The Indiana Department of Transportation has begun work on what it's calling deck overlay preventive maintenance to the Coliseum Boulevard bridge across the St. Joseph River, which is just west of the Main Campus. Access at the Anthony Boulevard and Coliseum Boulevard entrance will be highly restricted during construction, which is scheduled to last until Sept. 16, weather permitting.

As part of the project, crews will be closing lanes and diverting traffic on Coliseum in both directions. Until further notice from INDOT, it's expected that the left turn lane on eastbound Coliseum that frequently backs up in the morning will be periodically shut down for much of the next month.

Anyone looking to drive onto campus during this time is urged to use the Crescent Avenue and St. Joe Road entrances—and adjust their schedules to reflect probable delays.

Click here to view a campus map.



One of the highlights of Dons College Picnic will be the return of ziplining after a one-year absence.

Tons of Social Events Highlight Semester's Opening Two Weeks

A fantastic way to get into the groove on the campus of Purdue University Fort Wayne—and make new friends—is by enjoying a few of the kickoff activities planned over the next two weeks. As the fall semester begins, the Student Activities Board and various other organizations are filling the calendar with opportunities to welcome new and returning students, while also helping them feel at home.

There are tons of activities to consider including Friday's Welcome Back BBQ at Student Housing on the Waterfield Campus, which is open to all students and their families, not just those who live in student housing. Other possibilities include the Multicultural Center's Welcome Station, the Q Center Welcome Table and Open House, the Disability Access Center Welcome Back Breakfast, and the TRIO Coffee Hour. Be sure to check out a full list of possibilities on the **Events Calendar**.

[READ MORE](#)

Enhanced goPFW Is Now Live; Visit the Portal to Sign Up for Emergency Text Alerts



After a year of planning, a new goPFW portal that offers a better experience for students and employees is now live.

Click here to get the full scoop.

A major goal during development was to simplify and enhance the entire experience, adding functionality and efficiency to the application.

Users can see the big changes by visiting **go.pfw.edu**.

The portal is also where to go to sign up to receive emergency text alerts about situations such as active threats or campus closure announcements. It's very easy to do, but you must opt in. Do that today; it takes just a few seconds!

A Refresher Course on Getting IT Support

Purdue IT is the central information technology organization serving students, faculty, and staff at all Purdue system institutions.

The hub for IT support on the campus of Purdue Fort Wayne is the Help Desk, which is located in Kettler Hall, Room 206. For most questions, the answers can be easily found online by **clicking here**. This website is also a great source of general information on topics such as submitting a ticket, services provided, and technology spaces on campus.

The **Purdue IT website** is another useful place to find additional content for technology users at any Purdue location.

Interested in putting a face to the name? Team members supporting the PFW campus are featured **here**—and a list of Purdue IT senior leadership is available **here**.

Totally lost and not sure where to start? Email **helpdesk@pfw.edu** or call 260-481-6030.



Purdue Fort Wayne to Host Sept. 21 Gala Celebrating Multilingual Populations

With over 70 languages spoken in northeast Indiana and a proud history of serving as a resettlement destination for countless families, this region stands as a positive example of cultural and linguistic diversity throughout the Midwest. At the heart of this vibrant community are more than 7,000 multilingual learners enrolled in area schools, guided by dedicated educators.

To pay tribute to the efforts of these educators and the families who benefit from their efforts, the Teaching English as a New Language program and the **Three Rivers Language Center** in the School of Education at Purdue University Fort Wayne will host a gala on Sept. 21 from 5 to 8 p.m. in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union.

The inaugural Multilingual Northeast Indiana Gala will shine a spotlight on the impact educators make in the lives of their students, and how that fosters the growth of northeast Indiana.

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PFW faculty members, including Ahmed Mustafa, recipient of the university's 2021–22 Outstanding Research Award, deliver high-quality education in settings conducive to advanced training.

Purdue Fort Wayne Introduces Big Discount for Alumni Interested in Specific Graduate Degrees

Alumni of Purdue University Fort Wayne who received a bachelor's degree at any point in the previous five years are now eligible for a sizable tuition discount of up to 30% if they decide to return to PFW to pursue a graduate degree in one of six eligible programs: biology, engineering, mathematics, music therapy, organizational leadership, and professional communications.

The incentive is one free class per semester for the first three semesters of enrollment, a maximum of nine credits in all. PRAGS, or Propelling Recent Alumni to Graduate Studies, is the initiative's unofficial name that was coined by Sherif Elfayoumy, the Steel Dynamics Dean of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science.

With some indication that the job market is tightening, leaders at PFW want to further equip recent grads with the skills and knowledge necessary to excel in their chosen field.

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Purdue President Mung Chiang Visits PFW

During his Aug. 5 visit to campus, Purdue President Mung Chiang met with various members of PFW's university community, including students. Photographed here at Kettler Hall (from left to right) are Sebastien Wilson, B.A. '23, recreation coordinator; Maleah Boyd, SGA vice president of legislation; Mikayla Haggerty, former SGA president, enrollment management and student experience undergraduate intern; Chiang; Emma Hedrick, student success coach coordinator for the Office of Admissions; and Michael Boyd, student success coach for popular music.

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.

AUGUST

26

Mon., 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Campus Kickoff Supergames

Come out to the Science Mall for fun, food, freebies, and inflatables...

AUGUST

27

Tues., 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Have a “Paws”itive Start—Therapy Dogs

To help get the semester started off right, therapy dogs will be hanging out at Walb Student Union for you to pet, cuddle, and take selfies with...

AUGUST

28

Wed., 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

WellRec RecFest

Dive into a day filled with excitement as we transform the Science Mall into a playground of adventure. Glide through the waters with us kayaking or soak up the sun with various games and activities...

News Spotlight

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

Fort Wayne Police officers demonstrate emergency vehicle driving training

WANE 15 | Friday

Fort4Fitness unveils shirt, medal designs for 2024 Fall Festival

WANE 15 | Thursday

PFW secures two recycling research project grants totaling more than \$560K

21Alive | Aug. 13

Mastodon Moments

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



The Honors Freshman Seminar is a four-day, interdisciplinary experience taking place this week. Chancellor Ron Elsenbaumer (right) is photographed here delivering a welcome message to students on Monday at the Liberal Arts Building, Room 159. Honors Program Director Farah Combs (center) facilitates various activities like this throughout the year.

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