

For Faculty and Staff

August 13, 2024



Chen Secures Two Major Grants to Develop AI-Supported Recycling Systems

Whenever he finishes teaching his machine learning course at the end of a semester, Bin Chen knows he has to start preparing for the next time the class is offered.

"In engineering, we have to update our knowledge consistently," the Purdue University Fort Wayne associate professor of electric and computer engineering said. "There is no way to teach the course the same way for 10 years. The instructors and faculty members must continue to learn and adjust to the new technology and developments in the field."

Recently, competing against universities nationwide, Chen received two major grants from the Department of Energy for recycling research projects.

The first is funding a two-year, \$100,000 effort to help UHV Technologies Inc. create a machine to sort a variety of recyclable plastic bottles for conversion into chemicals and/or other usable materials.

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Division of Continuing Studies Settles in to New DSB Digs

The third floor of the Doermer School of Business Building on Purdue Fort Wayne's South Campus is where students, faculty, and staff will now find the university's **Division of Continuing Studies**. Except for a few last items on the IT checklist, much of the summer move is complete.

The division's main entrance is Suite 300, and nearly 20 offices and cubicles make up the space. A classroom in Room 320 is also included in the footprint.

In addition to DCS programs and services, the new location also houses the northeast Indiana office of the Small Business Development Center, an affiliate of the university that's staffed by business advisors who meet with clients from all over the region. Chadi Braish, executive director of continuing studies, believes a physical address at the DSB building is a huge benefit to the SBDC.

"While the campus is wonderful, it can be confusing for a visitor to locate a specific building and

office," Braish said. "Thanks to our amazing business school partners, we have already hosted SBDC workshops in DSB classrooms with great success."

DCS also provides training and outreach to the community through its noncredit programs. Braish said these too will massively benefit from easier accessibility and a dedicated classroom that is equipped for the multitude of courses that are offered.

Even with the move to the South Campus, the division's teams have been able maintain normal operations this summer with a combination of in-person interactions and those easily accomplished remotely.

Email **learn@pfw.edu** or call 260-481-6619 for additional information.

New PFW Portal Set to Launch Thursday



As announced in Friday's **special editions of** *Inside PFW* and *Don Life,* a new goPFW portal that will offer a better experience for employees and students will be launched Thursday.

Users can preview the big changes now by visiting the existing **go.pfw.edu** and clicking on the "do so here" hyperlink in the Luminis Announcements message.

On the Job

Check out the new faces in new places.

New Hires

- Shareace Brown, custodian | Building Services
- Samantha Castaneda, equipment and game operations coordinator | Athletics
- Leilani Fonsah, business assistant | Administrative Business Services
- Paul Kipfer, custodian | Building Services
- Bailey Spencer, business clerk | Administrative Business Services
- Sebastien Wilson, recreation coordinator | Wellbeing and Recreation

In a Snap

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



As the fall semester rapidly approaches, Mastodon Campus Store staff such as new employee K.J. Suttle are making sure inventory is where it needs to be.





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**.

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