



Stacie Hubbert, director, Allen County Department of Environmental Management; Bin Chen, PFW associate professor of electrical and computer engineering; Richard E. Beck, Allen County commissioner; and Carl Drummond, PFW provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, took part in a news conference Monday afternoon.

Chen, PFW Help Allen County Land \$1.7M Grant for Battery Recycling

Purdue University Fort Wayne has entered into a collaboration that could potentially make it a local and state leader in lithium battery recycling. Under the leadership of Bin Chen, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, the university helped Allen County receive a \$1.7M grant from the Department of Energy for a three-year study that was announced Monday afternoon during a news conference at the Rousseau Centre in downtown Fort Wayne.

“It’s really exciting for us as an institution to be able to utilize the intellectual capital of our faculty and students in a way that truly benefits the region,” said Carl Drummond, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at Purdue Fort Wayne.

Drummond said the project could provide technical training and research opportunities for as many as 50 PFW students over the three years.

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TRIO Provides Support, Guidance for First-Generation Students

Sitting in the middle of a five-student panel during TRIO’s First-Generation Celebration on Nov. 6, Aurea Alconera decided to show how much she’s evolved in two years at Purdue University Fort Wayne. The question was, “What advice would you give other first-generation students?”

“Imposter syndrome is very real,” said Alconera, a senior majoring in psychology, who leaned forward into the microphone to deliver her answer. “If you are going through it, or are still experiencing it, that is valid. However, that is not who you are. That is not your identity. Even if you feel that you can’t get past this, just say yes to a lot of things because that will present a lot of opportunities for you and your future. Don’t let imposter syndrome be your identity because it will never be who you are.”

Located in Kettler Hall, Room G25, **TRIO Student Support Services** helps first-generation students find the support they need through mentoring, workshops, counseling, tutoring, special functions, and employment opportunities. There is no fee to join, and nearly 200 students are part of the program this semester.

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PFW's Liu Selected to Head Quantum Computing Team

An associate professor at Purdue University Fort Wayne is teaming with four Arizona State University faculty on a \$300,000 National Science Foundation Cyber Training Initiative grant. David Liu of PFW's Department of Computer Science is the project leader for a two-year program teaching graduate and research students the fundamentals of quantum computing, emphasizing materials science and chemistry.

"Quantum computers are a new way to compute based on quantum mechanics," Liu said. "Some things it would take a supercomputer thousands of years, a quantum computer could do in maybe a couple of hours. It's revolutionary and changes everything."

The project will provide 80 students and researchers from across the country with experience using state-of-the-art quantum computers and Qiskit quantum computing framework from IBM

and CUDA-Q—an open-source development platform from Nvidia—and higher-performance computers at Purdue West Lafayette and Arizona State. The goal is to develop a diverse, quantum-ready workforce capable of filling vital jobs that advance quantum technologies, promote national security, and strengthen economic growth.

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Good to Know

Main Campus Natural Gas Outage Scheduled for Today

Natural gas service to all buildings on the Main Campus of Purdue Fort Wayne will be shut down today to facilitate a tie-in for the new Surack–Sweetwater Music Industry Building. The disruption will last from approximately noon to 5 p.m. During this time, there will be no heat or hot water in all Main Campus buildings. The temperature inside the impacted buildings is not expected to drop significantly in the afternoon, but employees and students are encouraged to plan ahead.

Annual Fall Pottery Sale Set for Next Week

The Purdue University Fort Wayne Ceramics Club will hold its annual fall pottery sale Dec. 3 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Dec. 4 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the IDEASpace at Helmke Library. Forms of payment include cash, checks, and credit cards through a QR code. Profits from the sale support student travel to the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts Conference. For more information, contact a club officer at ceramicsclub@pfw.edu.

PFW Team Finishes National Cyber League Fall Season Strong

Purdue University Fort Wayne's Association for Computing Machinery student club finished 34th out of 550 colleges and universities participating in the National Cyber League's fall season. That's up from 36th during the fall 2023 campaign.

PFW's team, which is made up of students in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science, also finished second among the Indiana teams that compete in the NCL, just two spots behind Purdue West Lafayette.

Andrews-Smith Receives 2024 American Prize in Directing

Belinda Andrews-Smith, a voice lecturer in the School of Music who recently joined the faculty at Purdue University Fort Wayne after serving as the director of musical theatre at Tulane University, was chosen to receive a 2024 American Prize in Directing—The Charles Nelson Reilly Prize—for her

production of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. This recognition was bestowed in the theatre/musical theatre division. The American Prize National Nonprofit Competitions in the Performing Arts describes itself as the nation's most comprehensive series of contests in the performing arts.

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.

DECEMBER

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Mon., 5:30–8:30 p.m.

CPR and AED Certification Class

The American Heart Association Basic Life Support and First Aid class teaches basic life-support techniques—including CPR using various methods to assist victims of all ages—and how to operate an AED, or automated external defibrillator...

DECEMBER

3

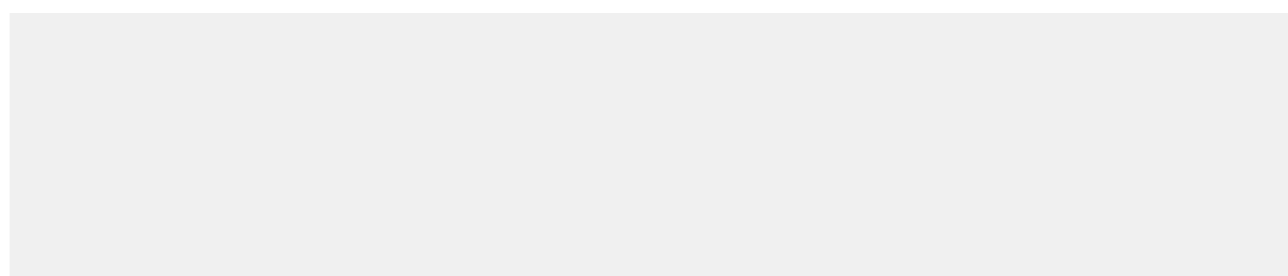
Tues., 7:30–9:30 p.m.

Viet Cuong and Holst: An Evening of Saxophone and Band Treasures

The University Bands will perform with composer Viet Cuong and the Soma Saxophone Quartet, featuring Paul Lorenz, professor of saxophone, performing *Second Nature*. Others works include the continued celebration of Gustav Holst's 150th Anniversary with a performance of his *Second Suite in F...*

In a Snap

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





The Indian dancing of Bollywood Jhoom was one of the many lively performances from PFW's talented international students at the annual Global Student Celebration on Friday.

News Center



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Ripples



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