



*PFW's Model UN club team members and faculty advisors included (left to right): Sasha Poda, Staci Bougher, Zachary Hughes, Lara Alfadhli, Martin Masters, Hunter Felton-Kaminskas, James Toole, Ye Yint Phone Myint, Thaylea Pierce, Rashida Lan, Loai Mohamed, and AC Chaudhary.*

## Intense Experience Has PFW Model UN Team Coming Back for More

One way to describe attending the annual American Model United Nations Conference in Chicago might be controlled chaos that becomes more organized as the days pass. Participating might seem even more frantic in person, but also very fulfilling, as PFW students describe it. They must also enjoy it, because many of the 10 students who are eligible to participate often go back the following year. Seven from PFW returned this year—for the third time.

"The conference absolutely lives up to its reputation," said senior Sasha Poda, a political science major and PFW's Model United Nations club president. "All the staff and participants come prepared and fully committed to their roles. The energy is high, and there is a shared excitement among everyone. It's a dynamic and immersive experience that truly brings diplomacy and

international relations to life.”

The extracurricular club was initiated in 2008 by James Toole, associate professor of political science. One of those first students was Staci Bougher, now a limited-term lecturer in political science and co-director of the club.

[READ MORE](#)

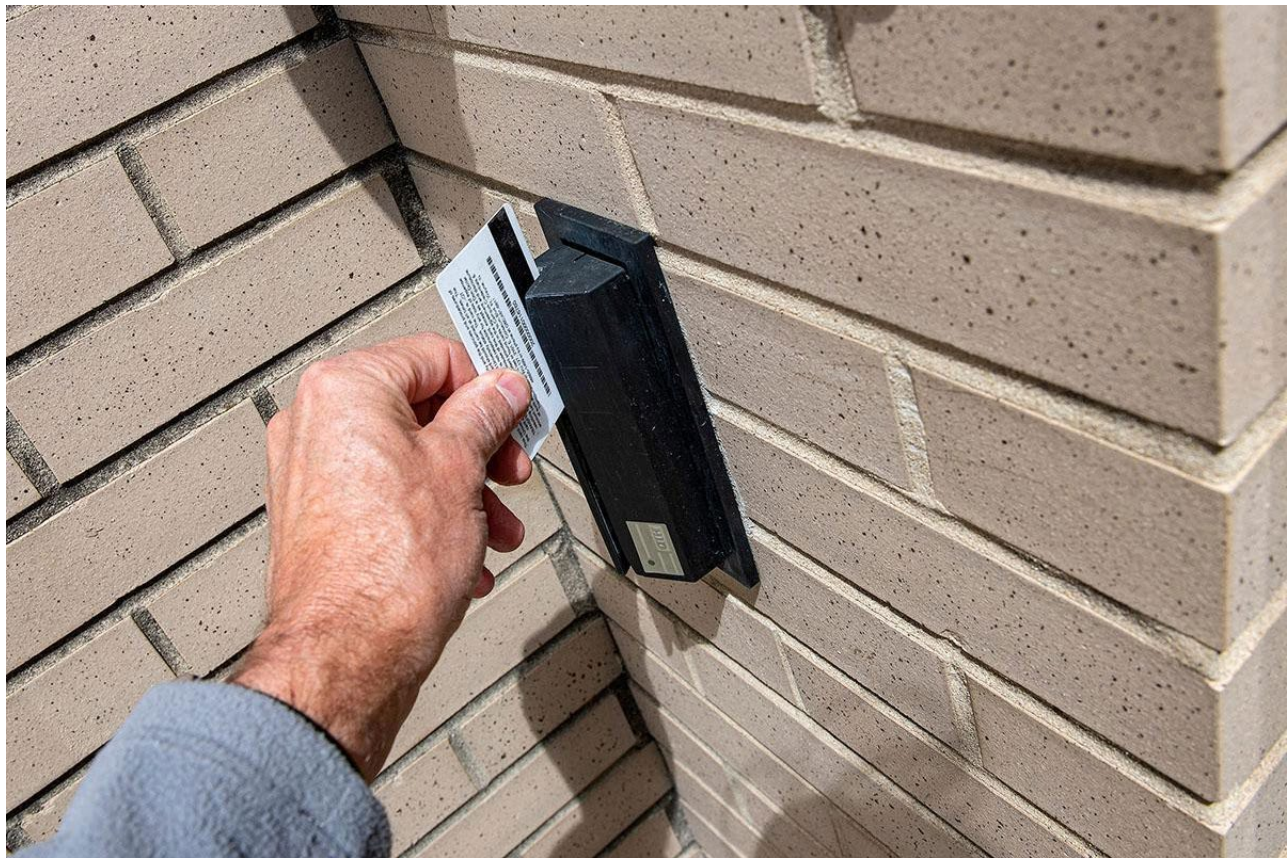
## Disability Awareness Month Award Nominations Now Being Accepted

The Disability Access Center has announced the introduction of new awards to recognize individuals and organizations across the campus community who have demonstrated exemplary commitment to creating an equitable and inclusive environment for individuals with disabilities. These awards are intended to honor those who go above and beyond in fostering accessibility and support.

The inaugural awards will be presented in March, coinciding with Disability Awareness Month. Nominations will be accepted through the end of January. A dedicated committee will review all nominations and select the winners.

Award recipients will be recognized with a certificate of appreciation and a special gift as a token of gratitude for their outstanding contributions.

[SUBMIT A NOMINATION](#)



## Building Access during Winter Recess

Throughout the upcoming break, all campus buildings will be locked from Dec. 22 at 11 p.m. to Jan. 2 at 7 a.m.

Members of the campus community who need access during this time—and don't already possess it—will need to fill out and submit a **Door Access Request Form** prior to Dec. 20 to have clearances added to their Mastodon ID card. Access to buildings during the recess will not be allowed without a card.

Those who don't have an ID card, or have an older IPFW card, may stop by the Campus Credentials and Transportation office in Walb Student Union, Room 127, to obtain a new one. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Staff/faculty door access is valid 365 days a year, including all holidays, breaks, etc. It is not necessary to re-request access—it is on the card indefinitely unless the employee leaves the university or Campus Credentials and Transportation is told otherwise by the cardholder's superiors.

Student and student worker door access is valid only for the current semester, which ends Dec. 22. If students or student workers need access during winter break, their supervisors must submit a **Door Access Request Form** on their behalf as soon as possible.

## Fitness Center and Pantry Finalize Adjusted Schedules

Over the next few weeks, the Fitness Center and both FRIENDS of the University Pantry locations will be operating under different hours and/or closed on specific dates.

### Fitness Center

Dec. 16–20 | Regular hours  
Dec. 21 | 8 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Dec. 22 | Noon–5 p.m.  
Dec. 23–Jan. 5 | Closed  
Jan. 6–10 | 8 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Jan. 11 | 8 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Jan. 12 | Noon–5 p.m.  
Jan. 13 | Regular hours resume

### FRIENDS of the University Pantry

Student Housing Clubhouse  
Dec. 23–Jan. 5 | Closed (special appointments can be arranged by contacting the building RA)  
Jan. 6–7 | Noon–2 p.m.  
  
Walb Student Union, Room G36  
Dec. 19 | 10 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Dec. 20–Jan. 1 | Closed  
Jan. 2 | 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

## Eventful

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*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

13

Fri., 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

### Fall 2024 Honors Showcase

The Honors Showcase features presentations from all active honors students who are nearing graduation. These students will present their honors projects, the capstone of the Honors Program and the final requirement to earn their honors certificate and medal...

DECEMBER

13

Fri., noon–2 p.m.

### Biology Senior Seminar Poster Symposium

Biology seniors have been hard at work this semester—in the classroom, in the lab, and in the field. See what they've been working on at the symposium. They would love to share their work with you.

## In a Snap

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



Gail Lugo, administrative assistant, offered a cheery holiday greeting from her desk in the Student Life office on Monday.

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](mailto: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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