



For Students

January 15, 2025



## Authentic Experiences Highlight Business Students' Mock Trials

Rarely are attorneys or defendants allowed to quiz judges about their rulings after court cases, but a group of Purdue University Fort Wayne students were encouraged to ask questions following recent mock trials held on campus Dec. 10 and 12. The sessions were part of limited-term lecturer Staci Bougher's commercial law class.

"These are just life experiences and I want my students to walk away from and have some familiarity and not be afraid when these things happen," Bougher said, "or say, 'OK I have to go to court on this, but I know how things work.' Don't be as intimidated."

Magistrates Rick Trevino from the Allen Circuit Court and Brian Cook from the Allen Superior Court ensured the students' experiences were positive.

READ MORE

## Nominations Open for 2025 Student Leader Awards

Do you have what it takes to be the Student Leader of the Year? Does your student organization deserve to be recognized for all it has done?

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Student Leader Awards. Nominate yourself, peers, staff, and faculty for awards to celebrate accomplishments during this academic year. View the various award descriptions [here](#) and submit your nominations via [this form](#), which will go live at 8 a.m. on Friday and remain open until 5 p.m. on Feb. 28. All nominees will receive an invitation to the banquet on April 28.

For additional information, [visit the awards webpage](#) or contact Abbey Wang, assistant director of Student Leadership and Student Government Association.



*Chichi Jasper-Duruzor displayed the painting "Ebola" by Susi LaForsch that depicts healthcare workers wearing hazmat suits carrying an empty stretcher*

## Microbiology Students Use Artwork to Describe the Impact of Infectious Diseases

When she decided to attempt an "outside-the-box" lesson in her medical microbiology class, Lisa

McLellan had no idea her assignment would have such an impression on some of her students. The Purdue University Fort Wayne assistant professor of biological sciences developed an idea pairing infectious diseases with existing and even original artwork typifying the experiences of those battling the various conditions.

"I really just wanted the students to find something that was meaningful to them and artwork that inspired them," McLellan said. "So many of them are going on to medical school, and I don't want them to just study the diseases, but learn how they impact people."

Before McLellan had finished her pitch, some of the 16 graduate and undergraduate students had already decided which disease they wanted to work with and how it would be represented through art. Some had their own stories from previous life experiences.

[READ MORE](#)



## Mastodon Mania: One Mastodon-Sized Week of Fun

What's better than celebrating Mastodon pride? Celebrating it for a whole week!

**Mastodon Mania** will be a chance to show off PFW school spirit in a really big way Feb. 3–8. Student Life and Mastodon Athletics are partnering to bring the campus community a week of Mastodon sports, fun games and events, and cool giveaways galore.

There's something for everyone—don't miss any of the action!

[LEARN MORE](#)

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# Good to Know

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## Honors Program Pinning Ceremony

Purdue Fort Wayne's Honors Program pinning ceremony will be Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. **Seventy-one students** who have completed a minimum of 9 credit hours of honors classes will be presented with the Honors Program pin by Chancellor Ron Elsenbaumer at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum during the halftime of the men's basketball game. PFW students can attend the game for free.

## Chastain Receives CSCA Top Paper Award

Caroline Chastain, a PFW graduate student and teaching assistant in the Department of Communication, recently received a top paper award from the Central States Communication Association. "Truth, Discourse, and Religious Authority: A Foucauldian Analysis of the Cultish Podcast" was one of three honored in the graduate student caucus division. The CSCA annual conference will take place in Cincinnati the first week of April.

# 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.*

JANUARY

15

Today, 2–5 p.m.

## Glow Laser Tag and Photo Booth

Step into the glow zone—an electrifying afternoon of glow laser tag and a neon-themed photo booth hosted by the Office of International Education. Get ready to battle it out and capture the memories with dazzling photo ops...

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JANUARY

16

Thurs., 11 a.m.–1

## "Paws"itively Relaxing—Therapy Dog Visit

The Three Rivers Visiting Therapy Dogs will be in front of the Herd Hideout in Walb Student Union. The pups will be ready for some pets,

p.m. cuddles, and selfies...

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JANUARY

21

Tues., 11 a.m.–1:30  
p.m.

## Talent Tuesday: Meet Your Next Employer

Connect with employers who are offering internship positions and part-time and full-time positions that you wouldn't get the chance to know about otherwise...

## News Spotlight

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

### Remembering Jimmy Carter: Breaking down his presidency

CBS News New York | Thursday

### City Utilities and Anthony Wayne Rotary Club awards more than \$13,000 worth of college scholarships

FOX 55 | Jan. 8

### 2024 Purdue Fort Wayne Home for the Holidays Concert

PBS Fort Wayne | Dec. 25

## Mastodon Moments

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

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*A little subzero wind chill on Monday didn't discourage morning training for these members of the track and field team.*

Athletics



Events Calendar



News Center



Don Life Archive



Don Life is an official university communication sent weekly on Wednesday to all currently enrolled students. Don Life Special Edition is a supplement to the regularly scheduled newsletter. It covers breaking news and time-sensitive information directly related to university operations.

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