



*The Purdue Fort Wayne Scanning Electron Microscope Laboratory, located in the Science Building, is part of the Argast Family Imaging and Analysis Laboratories, along with the Environmental Engineering Laboratory.*

## Purdue Fort Wayne Now Offering State's Only Master's in Applied Physics

Starting this fall, graduate students attending Purdue University Fort Wayne will be able to pursue a Master of Science degree in applied physics. The addition of this degree program received its final required endorsement by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education on Thursday. No other university in Indiana currently offers this master's, which is often described as a bridge between pure physics and engineering.

Increased interest has led to a 300% growth in physics majors at PFW over the last two decades,

while rapidly growing technology industries in northeast Indiana have led to a regional need for skilled professionals with an advanced degree. The master's in applied physics at PFW will prepare students to apply materials science and quantum theories in associated fields, such as optoelectronics, materials manufacturing, and acoustics. Graduates will also gain advanced experimental, computational, and analytical skills to address real-world industry challenges while meeting the region's need for a skilled workforce in these key sectors.

[READ MORE](#)

## How We Work

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*How much do you really know about Purdue Fort Wayne? The "How We Work" series explores some of the untold stories about the university's daily operations, its support for students and employees, its engagement in the community, and its various achievements.*



*Jolene Lawton, clinical assistant professor, is one of four faculty supervisors for the Communication Sciences and Disorders Clinic.*

### CSD Clinic Serves Dual Role to Help Community and Students

Until actually stepping into a real-life client session, the skills of a student majoring in

communication sciences and disorders are mostly untested and based on theory. Undergraduate classes provide a foundation, but when do students discover if their chosen field is correct—and if they can genuinely help people? When does theory become practice?

That's the goal of the **CSD Clinic** at Purdue University Fort Wayne, which allows CSD students to work directly with clients. Located in the Classroom Clinic Building that sits between the Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science Building and Helmke Library, the clinic is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Through their efforts, CSD students gain practical experience and confidence. During 2024, they worked with 105 clients over 1,697 hours of treatment or evaluation. Undergraduate students see one client, while graduate students work with up to four.

The clinic offers multiple services, all at no charge to clients of all ages. Individual or group sessions are available, and therapy goals are personalized to help clients maximize their potential in everyday life.

[READ MORE](#)

## Friday's New Leadership Retreat Looks to Reach Across Generations to Promote Understanding

Purdue University Fort Wayne's Department of Organizational Leadership and Student Government Association are bringing a multigenerational communication and leadership event to campus on Friday. The Student Leadership FUSION Retreat runs from 8 a.m. to noon.

**Registration is free.**

Along with a mix of students, faculty, and staff, the presentations will include people at different stages of life. Mitch Isaacs, executive director of Shafer Leadership Academy, is presenting the session, which will explore various social, political, and economic influences that shaped the working attitudes of the Greatest Generation, Baby Boomers, Generation X, Millennials, and now Generation Z.

The workshop is designed to help participants be more effective communicators and leaders through understanding the various generations in the workplace today. A board game is featured to help appreciate each generation's worldview.

## First-Gen Zone Training Set for April 30

While 54% of college students nationally are first-generation, only 20% graduate. Learn about the history, characteristics, and challenges of first-gen students at a workshop on April 30 from 1 to 4

p.m. in the IDEASpace at Helmke Library. The workshop will focus on tools and strategies for faculty and staff to better support PFW students. [Register here.](#)

## 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.*

FEBRUARY

5

Wed., noon–1 p.m.

### PFW Women's Affinity Caucus: Brown Bag Mixer

This brown bag lunch mixer/networking opportunity will feature a panel discussion titled "Women in Academia." All women are encouraged to attend, along with allies of women, regardless of gender...

FEBRUARY

7

Fri., 7–11 p.m.

### Spielfreaks Campus-Community Tabletop Board Game Night

Play all kinds of modern tabletop board games like Settlers of Catan, Ticket to Ride, 7 Wonders, Splendor, and more. You'll find an eager crowd ready to play your favorites and teach whatever you want to learn. Open to students, friends, faculty and staff, and the community...

## On the Job

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*Check out the new faces in new places.*

### New Hires

- Anthony Hess, maintenance mechanic | Operations and Maintenance



# In a Snap

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



The special events team rolled out the red carpet on Monday for the Mastodon Mania department door decorating competition. You'll see many areas decorated to show school spirit this week; judging will take place Friday.

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**.

*Inside PFW* is produced twice weekly on Tuesday and Thursday by the Office of Communications and Marketing. *Inside PFW 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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