



Transition to Teaching Helps Candidates Adjust to New Indiana Requirements

Each year, elementary and high school teachers are tasked with more responsibilities regarding their students' well-being and its potential impact on their learning. This includes recognizing warning signs and reporting concerns. Being aware of potential abuse has always been a priority, but what if there are suspicions a student might be homeless or involved with criminal activity? Teachers are now required by law to report such possibilities.

So how do current and future educators keep up with all the new obligations they are presented by state legislatures and other governing bodies, particularly the 61 involved with Purdue University Fort Wayne's **Transition to Teaching** program? These are professionals transitioning from other fields, often completing their training while actively serving in schools because there is

such a drastic need for teachers. Candidates can finish the program in three to four semesters, depending on their specific areas.

Each semester, 10-15 TTT participants gather monthly in Neff Hall for 2½-hour training sessions to debate questions, study ideas, and ask for guidance from PFW faculty such as Shane Conwell, professor of educational leadership; Erin Baldauf, professor of education; and Rama Cousik, associate professor of special education. The current cohort is made up of 12 who meet for an hour before breaking into their specialties.

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PFW Faculty Share Their Research at International Mother Language Day Conference in Paris

Two Purdue University Fort Wayne faculty members spoke at UNESCO's 25th annual International Mother Language Day conference in Paris on Feb. 20 and 21. Mary Encabo-Bischoff, clinical assistant professor of linguistics, and Shannon Bischoff, chair of communication sciences and disorders, were asked to share their research and engagement activities during the two-day event.

The conference's theme was reaffirming the importance of linguistic diversity and multilingualism in fostering dignity, peace, and understanding. UNESCO estimates there are 8,324 languages, spoken or signed, with around 7,000 still in use worldwide.



Switch to ParkMobile Great for Drivers Who Don't Like Change

Purdue University Fort Wayne has upgraded 80 parking meters on its Main Campus. As part of a transition that will officially conclude next week, the meters will no longer be coin-operated.

The university has partnered with **ParkMobile** to deactivate the slots and add a posted QR code users will scan with a mobile phone to pay for parking. Clicking on the QR code leads to the ParkMobile app, if already downloaded, or the company's website.

To pay for parking, a user enters the zone number posted on signs around the spot, selects the amount of time needed, and touches the "Start Parking" button to begin the session. Users can also extend the time of the session via their mobile device.

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Three Weeks Left to Order Commencement Academic Regalia

Purdue Fort Wayne's 2025 Commencement will be held May 14 at 4 p.m. in the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum. All faculty and staff are encouraged to attend and participate in this joyous occasion that is the culmination of our students' academic experience—and one of life's special moments. Faculty members who wish to participate in the ceremony can find the registration link [here](#).

Faculty are asked to wear academic regalia (tams optional) for the ceremony. Anyone needing to rent regalia should use this [online form](#); the university will cover the cost of rentals. As has been the case in recent years, everything will be shipped directly and include a return shipping label. Faculty are required to return the rented regalia back to Herff Jones. The deadline for orders is April 18.

Free Counseling Offered through Employee Assistance Program

Purdue Fort Wayne employees and immediate family members are eligible for the Employee Assistance Program, which provides up to six free, confidential counseling sessions through Bowen Health per year.

Bowen has 12 locations in northeast Indiana and also offers virtual appointments. Additionally, a

Bowen EAP therapist is on campus on the third Monday of every month. To schedule a confidential appointment, call 1-800-342-5653. Be sure to inform the scheduling specialist the EAP benefit is being utilized through Purdue Fort Wayne. Appointments can also be scheduled by visiting bowenhealth.org and clicking "Schedule Appointment."

If employees require assistance beyond what EAP provides, Bowen will help set up care through its health plan and network of providers or refer them to a convenient, local in-network provider.

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Good to Know

WellRec Is Now Campus Recreation

Wellbeing and Recreation has been renamed Campus Recreation following the establishment of the new **Division of Campus and Community Wellbeing**. Campus Recreation is responsible for managing the fitness center, intramural sports, outdoor recreation, and a variety of other recreational programs on campus. The team, though small, is committed to fostering a healthy and active environment within the campus community. For inquiries, contact Nick Brand, director of campus recreation, at brannj01@pfw.edu.

Honors Program Showcase

The Spring 2025 Honors Program Showcase will take place April 8–11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Honors Program Classroom at Walb Student Union, Room 211. Students will present projects on a wide range of topics across various majors. This is a great opportunity to experience the showcase firsthand, especially for students who plan to present their own project in the future. The event will also be **livestreamed**.

Faculty and Staff Portrait Session Scheduled for Tuesday

Faculty and staff who would like to have portraits taken may do so Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The photographer will be set up on the north end of the skybridge connecting Helmke Library and Walb Student Union.

News Spotlight

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

23andMe says 'delays' resolved after users rushed to delete data

Miami Herald | Wednesday

Cookbook author Pati Jinich simmers with more than Mexican recipes

The Journal Gazette (subscription required) | March 20

PFW women's basketball story for this year isn't over yet

The Journal Gazette (subscription required) | March 20

A path to the future

The Journal Gazette (subscription required) | March 18

In a Snap

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



A group discusses a psychology research project during the 28th annual Student Research and Creative Endeavors Symposium on 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 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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