LSRC Supervisor Shares Insight Gained at Academic Crossroads

Though she's the Life Sciences Research Center supervisor, Lindee Mason never dreamed her path as a Purdue University Fort Wayne student would lead to this role. In fact, it required something of a Mastodon makeover driven by a change in attitude and pursuit of a different degree. Now she's using her struggles then as a way to help the students she currently teaches.

As a first-generation student in 2014, Mason was on a pre-nursing path before finding herself on academic probation. Though a bright student, she thought she wanted to become a doctor, but couldn't find the motivation to regularly attend a couple of required classes, figuring she'd already learned the content in high school and could skate by only taking the exams.

When that plan didn't succeed, she was notified of her status and had to decide whether she wanted to seriously pursue a degree or follow her mother and work the rest of her life in a pharmacy.
Mechanical Engineering Major Helping Build Future Student Success

Sometimes half the job of training to become an engineer seems to be learning to bounce back from failure to figure out the solution. But how does someone studying for that profession learn how to handle it?

That’s partly why Sidney Basham loves being co-leader of the ETCS LEAD Mentor Program—the acronym LEAD standing in this case for Learn, Engage, Achieve, and Discover. Along with senior Isaac Wendel, Basham pairs freshmen with upper-level mentors to adjust to the rigorous academic demands of the curriculum. There are around 70 freshmen taking part in the program this year, and more can join this semester.

“We wanted the program to be a ray of sunshine for people,” said Basham, a mechanical engineering major. “Engineers statistically are more prone to depression, and we wanted to bring light to let the mentees know they are not alone. That’s part of why we want to bring people together. People struggle and think they are dumb for struggling, but they are not. It’s supposed to happen, and then you’ll come out on the other side.”

Honors Program Information Session Scheduled for Friday

You’re invited to the upcoming virtual information session for the Honors Program at Purdue University Fort Wayne on Friday at 10 a.m., via WebEx.

This session will explore the various benefits and expectations of being part of the Honors Program. If you know students who you believe might be interested, please direct them to attend this session and learn more about what the program has to offer.
Featured Events

There's always plenty to do at Purdue Fort Wayne. Some opportunities are exclusive to university employees and their families. Check the full events calendar often to see what's happening on campus.

JANUARY

19
Fri., 7–11 p.m.

Spielfreaks Campus-Community Welcome Back Tabletop Board Game Night
Play all kinds of modern tabletop board games like Settlers of Catan, Ticket to Ride, 7 Wonders, Splendor, and more. Bring your favorites or learn something new. Either way, you'll find an eager crowd that's ready to play...

JANUARY

22
Mon., 5:30–9:30 p.m.

CPR, AED, and First Aid Certification Class
The American Heart Association Basic Life Support and First Aid classes teach 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...

JANUARY

23
Tues., 9:30–11 a.m.

Meet the Career Development Center: Faculty and Staff
Find out what's happening in the Career Development Center...
On the Job

*Check out the new faces in new places.*

**New Hires**

- Lashunda Derrick, custodian | Building Services

**Transfers**

- Rob Bogle, custodian | Building Services

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**In a Snap**

*Seen and noted around campus. Monitor our university social feeds for more great moments of Mastodon life.*
Computer science student Maxwell Klema created a confident study partner while on the skybridge. D'oh!
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