



August 6, 2025

Introducing the New Office of Student Success Initiatives

Dear Students,

As Purdue University Fort Wayne continues to prioritize student success and retention, a new administrative unit has been formed to provide students with valuable resources, coaching, access to services, and opportunities to make critical connections.

The Office of Student Success Initiatives, which opened Monday, is led by Giang Petroviak, executive director of student success initiatives. Her team is comprised of current staff members who will provide individualized outreach and specialized programming tailored to support at-risk student populations, including first generation students, first-year and transfer students, second-year students who may be experiencing the “sophomore slump,” PFW’s 21st Century Scholars, previously underserved populations, and seniors preparing for entry into the workforce after graduation.

This effort also brings new student orientation, family and parent programs, and the Center for Veteran and Military Student Success, formerly known as the Office of Military Student Services, under a new umbrella.

The Office of Student Success Initiatives is located in Walb Student Union, Room 118, and the Center for Veteran and Military Student Success is now located in Room 120 of Walb.

With a master’s in student development and formal experiences in student success coaching and support, Giang is the ideal person to build upon the structures and resources already on campus, as well as lead the development of new ones. We all look forward to working collectively to help students successfully navigate PFW and life outside of college.

Giang will also co-chair with me a Student Success Council comprised of PFW faculty and staff. The work of this council will be vital in our efforts to support students in all the populations highlighted above. Giang already collaborates with many across campus to execute new student orientation every summer, and she looks forward to growing these connections with faculty, academic advisors, student engagement offices, and others to create a suite of programs and services to help student achievement.

This team’s priority is evident in the new office’s name, to ensure each student has the tools they need to be successful. Its members will work alongside our campus partners to help all who need this level

of support have a positive experience from the time they start until the day they receive their diploma. This is consistent with our unwavering commitment to meet the unique needs of all PFW students.

As the team works diligently to build the needed structures and resources, assist in the development of a dedicated website, and establish the Student Success Council, please reach out to Giang directly at trangc01@pfw.edu to become an engaged partner in this exciting and important initiative.

Sincerely,



Krissy Surface

Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and the Student Experience

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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