



For Faculty and Staff

November 20, 2025



Students Challenged to Explore the Culture of Different Religions

After writing her name and course title on the whiteboard, Noor O'Neill Borbieva, professor of anthropology, turns toward the 10 students who are gathered and says, "This is one of my favorite classes."

Anthropology of Religion (ANTH 45500) may be one of her favorites because it is so challenging. Anthropology is the study of what makes us human, and little causes better discussions among humans than religion. The Purdue University Fort Wayne catalog describes the course as a critical evaluation of current approaches to the analysis of religious myth, ritual, and symbolism.

The discussions can lead to anywhere, usually with O'Neill nudging her students in different directions. The course is not about individual beliefs, but the culture of different religions. Based on the assigned readings, those discussions can get deeper by the minute as she pushes students

to understand the different structures of different aspects of religion.

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Speech-Language Pathology Graduate Program at Purdue Fort Wayne Earns National Accreditation

The master's in speech-language pathology program at Purdue University Fort Wayne has achieved accreditation from the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the **American Speech-Language-Hearing Association** for the next five years. The accreditation comes after a successful five-year period of candidacy and makes PFW's graduate program one of only seven in Indiana—and the only in northeast Indiana—to hold this important designation.

Full accreditation confirms that PFW's program meets rigorous academic and clinical standards, including curriculum design, faculty qualifications, and practicum experiences. Accredited programs are also required to provide structured and supervised clinical training that meets ASHA's standards, ensuring graduates are competent to work in diverse settings such as schools, hospitals, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation centers, skilled nursing facilities, and private

practice.

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Global Student Celebration Returns Friday

The annual Global Student Celebration has been one of Purdue University Fort Wayne's most well-attended events for more than a decade. The 2025 GSC will be held Friday in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union.

The celebration is PFW's opportunity to further support its international students and honor their cultures through delicious food, a colorful parade of nations, and captivating student performances. It is open to all students, staff, faculty, and the Fort Wayne community.

Student entry is free. For all other attendees, one nonperishable food item is requested as a donation to the FRIENDS of the University Pantry.

Food will start being served at 5:45 p.m., followed by the parade of nations and performances at 7.

The GSC is the culmination of International Education Week, which is a joint venture between the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education. It kicked off Monday. The week is intended to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and to attract future leaders from abroad to study in the U.S.



Volunteer for Finals Week Late Night Breakfast

An event to help fuel student success during finals week is in need of faculty and staff volunteers. This free, late night breakfast for all students will take place Dec. 11 between 9 and 11 p.m. at Don's at Walb.

Three different shift options are available—and no cooking experience is necessary. **Click here** if you are interested in helping cheer on members of the campus community as they wrap up the fall semester.

Team members from student housing and Student Life are also working to provide fun activities, door prizes, and even a memento for volunteers.

Good to Know

Fall 2025 Honors Program Showcase

The Fall 2025 Honors Program Showcase, will be held on Dec. 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Honors Center classroom at Helmke Library, Room 211. A live stream will be available **via WebEx** for those who are unable to attend in person. Honors students representing departments from across the university will speak on their specialized subjects from a variety of majors. Check out the full **[schedule of presentations](#)**.

News Spotlight

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

Mattel toy dinosaur named after Purdue Fort Wayne professor

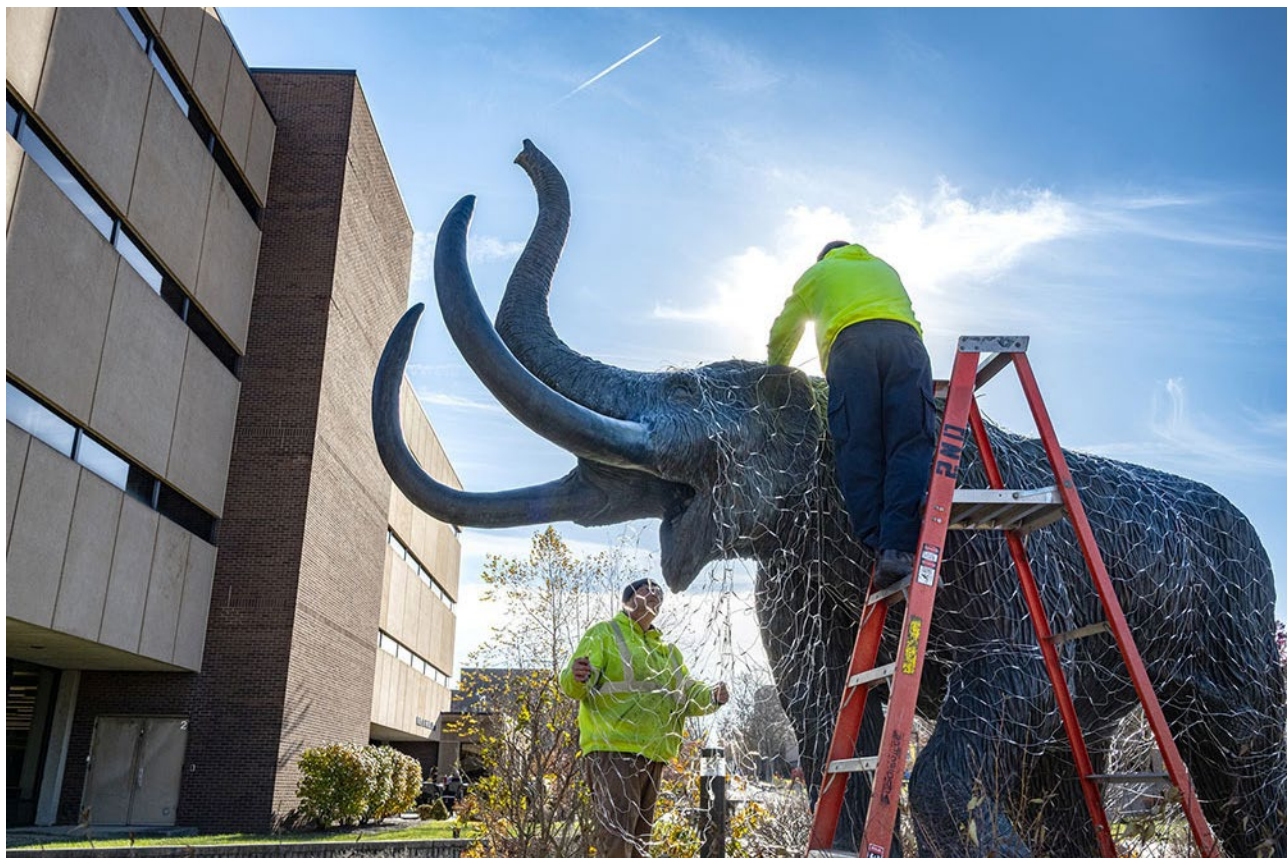
21Alive | Monday

Purdue Fort Wayne Displays 'U Can Do' Spirit in Fight Against Hunger

Fort Wayne-area media | Nov. 11–12

In a Snap

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



Staffers with Facilities Management string holiday lights on the bronze mastodon statue on Alumni Plaza Nov. 13, taking advantage of a warm day to spread some seasonal cheer.

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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