



Sociology Students Engage Off Campus to Address Food Insecurity

Students in Sherrie Steiner's sociology classes are learning by reaching out to those who may come from different backgrounds. The associate professor of sociology is using a unique program that encourages them to work off campus.

Utilizing a grant from Community-Engaged Alliance and collaboration from the Fort Wayne Area Interfaith Cooperative, students in Steiner's principles of sociology and religious cosmopolitanism classes are hosting a community food drive to support multiple food pantries, including the FRIENDS of the University Pantry at Purdue University Fort Wayne.

Since September, students have been visiting area religious institutions, sharing meals with church representatives, collecting ~~donations~~, and providing speaking presentations. That includes

engaging with 10 congregations through the end of November, culminating in a dinner with representatives from different faiths and elected officials to talk about food insecurity.

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First-Gen Day Honors Trailblazers

PFW's annual celebration of National First Gen Day will take place Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Classic Ballroom at Walb Student Union. The university uses the event to encourage and honor students who are the first members of their families to attend college.

Almost 50% of PFW students do not have college education in their family history, creating a special set of struggles to overcome, as well as positive opportunities for economic mobility.

"Sometimes college can be very lonely and you can feel isolated, especially as first-generation students," said Giang Petroviak, executive director of Student Success Initiatives. "Being in a room not only with your peers, but also faculty and staff who have been in your shoes can help. Our hope is to provide that space for them to see that they are not alone and they have support all around them to get to graduation."

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Good to Know

U Can Crush Hunger Campaign Nears Finish Line

The annual U Can Crush Hunger campaign, a competition among eight local colleges and universities in northeast Indiana, will conclude Friday. Hosted by the Community Harvest Food Bank, the drive fights hunger by collecting canned goods. At the first weigh-in, PFW led the field by a wide margin. But that's no reason to stop now!

Donations of canned goods are measured in pounds, and monetary donations are also accepted, with each dollar equaling four pounds. All contributions will benefit the local community. [Read the details.](#)

Mastodons vs. Boilermakers Basketball Free Ticket Offer Ends Tomorrow

The Purdue Fort Wayne women's basketball team hosts Purdue West Lafayette at Gates Sports Center on Wednesday. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m. Faculty and staff can claim two free general admission tickets by showing an employee ID at the Gates ticket office by Friday. It will be open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and tomorrow.

Eventful

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.

NOVEMBER

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

NOVEMBER

11

Tues., 7:30–9 p.m.

String Studio Recital

Celebrate the beauty and variety of string music. The evening will include performances by students from the violin, viola, cello, and string bass studios, culminating in a performance by the Chancellor's String Quartet. Admission is free for everyone...

News Spotlight

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

Andy Katz's 2025–26 men's basketball conference champions predictions

ncaa.com | Saturday

PFW expands club sports, reviving athletic dreams

21Alive | Oct. 30

Stevenson dunk lands on SportsCenter Top 10

ESPN | Oct. 28

Allen County officials receive findings, proposed solutions from consolidated Fire/EMS Systems study

21Alive | Oct. 24

In a Snap

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



Members of the College of Liberal Arts community show their muscle during the CoLA Olympics on Oct. 29. Students, faculty, and staff embraced both friendly competition and strong camaraderie on the Science Mall.

News Center



Inside PFW Archive



Athletics



Ripples



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