

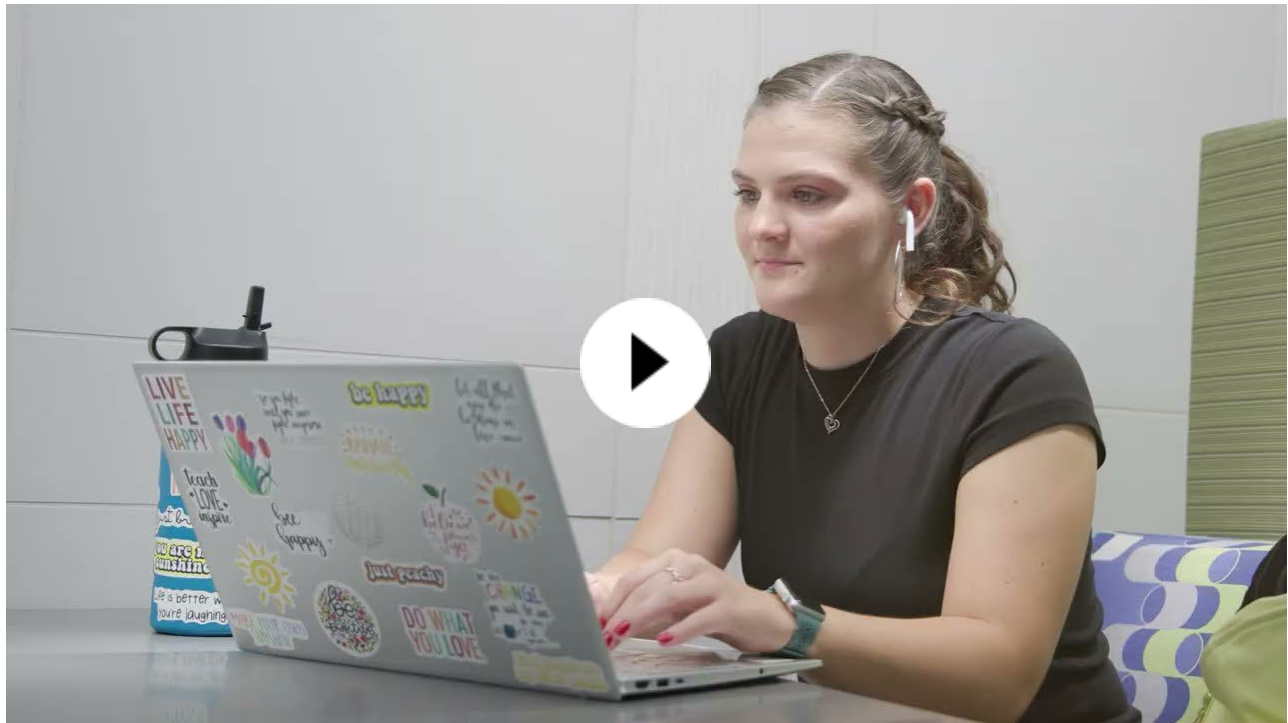
INSIDE PFW

CAMPUS NEWSLETTER



For Faculty and Staff

September 17, 2026



Mastodon Minute: How TRIO Helps First-Generation College Students at PFW

What is TRIO Student Support Services, and how does it help students succeed at Purdue Fort Wayne?

In this episode of Mastodon Minute, Demetria Pettie shares how TRIO Student Support Services provides mentorship, academic support, financial guidance, career counseling, and other resources designed to help students reach their educational goals and earn their degree.

TRIO SSS is part of the federally funded TRIO Programs and supports eligible students throughout their college journey.

Students who are first-generation college students, have a documented disability, or meet federal income requirements may be eligible to participate in the program. TRIO offers a welcoming community, personalized support, tutoring assistance, and opportunities that help students persist and thrive in college.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)



Join the Herd at DonFest

Faculty and staff are invited to help launch a new Purdue Fort Wayne tradition at DonFest on Saturday, Sept. 26. The celebration begins with women's volleyball at 2 p.m. and club football at 4 p.m., followed by DonFest activities from 4 to approximately 9 p.m. Enjoy food trucks, connect with colleagues and students, and cap off the evening with fireworks around 8:30 p.m. Come out, show your Mastodon spirit, and be part of the first DonFest!

[LEARN MORE](#)



Encourage a Future Don to Visit Campus

Faculty and staff are invited to help future Mastodons discover Purdue Fort Wayne by encouraging prospective students and their families to attend Campus Visit Day on Sunday, Sept. 27, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Guests will explore academic programs, tour our beautiful campus, and experience an information-packed, fun-filled introduction to life at PFW. Invite a future Don to join us and discover what it truly means to run with the Herd.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT VISIT DAY](#)



Roll the Dice for Mastodon Basketball

Join the Mastodon family for the 12th annual An Evening with Mastodon Basketball Casino Night on Saturday, Oct. 24, at La Vetta Luxury Event Center. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by an evening featuring a meet-and-greet with coaches and student-athletes, casino games for prizes, live music, college football broadcasts, auctions, food, and drinks.

More than a night of entertainment, the event brings supporters together to invest in the future of Mastodon Basketball. Proceeds help provide student-athletes with the resources, experiences, and opportunities they need to succeed on the court, in the classroom, and throughout the Fort Wayne community.

[LEARN MORE AND REGISTER](#)

Road to Retirement Conference

All benefits-eligible employees are invited to the Road to Retirement Conference, a semiannual, three-day virtual event. The information shared in these sessions are valuable planning tools designed to help employees and their families plan for retirement, regardless of where they are on their retirement path.

Sessions are schedule for September 23, 24, and 25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Employees can choose which sessions to attend based on their schedule, interests, and needs.

Visit the **Road to Retirement webpage** for more information, including the conference schedule, retirement resources to help you plan ahead, and access to past sessions.

Don't Miss Your Shot!

On-campus **seasonal flu shots** for employees will be available Tuesday, September 29, from 7 a.m. to 11 am in Walb Student Union, Room 222. One to One Health from the Center for Healthy Living will administer flu shots.

The vaccine will be provided at no charge to all benefits-eligible employees, spouses and dependents over age 18, and retirees on the Purdue health plan, as well as any IU faculty and staff who would like one. Employees must bring their Purdue or IU ID with them on the day of the flu shot.

Can't make it to the flu shot event? Flu shots are part of your preventive care coverage and are covered at 100% under Purdue's health plan. You can make an appointment with the Center for Healthy Living to receive your shot at your convenience by calling 765-494-0111 or by visiting your primary care physician's office or an in-network pharmacy.

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.*

SEPTEMBER

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Sat., 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Preserving the Past: Archaeology at Purdue University Fort Wayne

Join archaeologists from Purdue University Fort Wayne and RESCOM Environmental Corp near the Ron Venderly Family Bridge on the Purdue Fort Wayne campus as they and cultural resource management students demonstrate archaeological methods and techniques...

SEPTEMBER

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Sun., 1–4 p.m.

Club Football Game

The first-ever Club Football game vs. Wright State is happening at the W. Paul Wolf Field. No admission fee; bring all your family and friends to watch and cheer on the Dons...

In a Snap

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



An especially warm late-summer day on Tuesday culminated in SAB's Splash Bash at the Waterfield Campus.

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 are available 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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