

Boiler Dictionary

Success is facilitated by your ability to express yourself effectively.

The following terms and expressions are frequently used on this campus. Learn them and add to the list as you encounter other words and phrases that may be unique to the university environment.

Academic Advisor: Person in the department who is responsible for providing academic information and advice, helping students develop programs/plans of study and selecting courses, and also provides information and assistance in course registration, revision, etc.

Ambassadors: Students who represent their department or group at various recruitment and alumni events. It's a great resume builder and a wonderful way to get involved at Purdue.

Banner: Purdue University's official online registration program where students enter their own course registration with a PIN provided by their department.

BGR: Boiler Gold Rush (orientation program for freshman).

Big Ten: 12 universities in the Midwest that make up an athletic conference; the "Big Ten" name stuck despite the addition of the 12th team (Purdue, Northwestern, Michigan State, Ohio State, Penn State, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana, Wisconsin, Nebraska).

Blackboard: An e-learning course management system that allows teachers to post specific information for each class. Students log in using their Purdue career accounts.

Boilermaker: This Purdue student or athlete nickname originated in 1889 when discouraged coaches hired several husky boilermakers from the Monon Railroad and a few burly policemen to play football. After enrolling in one course, the men started playing and won one game after another. Angry Crawfordsville newspapermen wrote uncomplimentary stories, calling the team "sluggers", "cornfield sailors", and "boilermakers". The last name stuck and has been a nickname ever since.

Boilermaker Special: This unique mini-locomotive, cared for by the Reamer Club to promote Purdue spirit, is the official University mascot.

Boilermaker X-Tra Special: A smaller version of the Boilermaker Special.

Breakfast Club: Student costume party held in the early mornings on Chauncey Hill before each home football game.

Call-out: A general meeting sponsored by one of the 1016+ student organizations to attract new members. Attend call-outs to find out about a group you may want to join.

CAPS: Counseling & Psychological Services – helps students deal with stress and pressure of being a student.

CCO: Center for Career Opportunities, a place where student can learn about career options and get help searching for a job or internship.

Chauncey Hill: A shopping center and popular student hang out located just east of campus.

CODO: Change Of Degree Objective, or officially changing from one college/school to another at Purdue. It is used both as a noun ("CODO") and a verb ("to CODO" and "CODO'ing")

Co-op Education: A program, housed in the Professional Practice Program office, that uses a semester-long cycle of work and classes to give students valuable experience and income. Differs from internships in its format and the ability to return to the same employer each co-op session.

Co-Rec: Recreational Sports Center, which offers gymnasium facilities to students and staff. Organized intramural competition also is offered. Use your Purdue ID for entry.

CRN: Stands for "Course Registration Number." It's the 5-digit number that represents a single, unique section of a course.

Dead Week: The last week of classes before finals. No exams are to be scheduled during the week.

Den Pop: A large, cheap pop/soda from The Discount Den, a popular store on Chauncey Hill. A Purdue tradition.

Exponent: The independent newspaper published by Purdue students and distributed free at many locations.

Grand Prix: A go-kart race held every spring.

Hold: A lock on your academic records that prevents you from registering, ordering transcripts, or receiving grades.

ISS: International Students & Scholars, located in Schleman, Room 136.

ITaP: Information Technology at Purdue is located Stewart Center (STEW), room G-65.

John Purdue: Founder of Purdue University.

Mortar Board: A calendar published each fall by the Mortar Board Honor Society. It lists important Purdue events, holidays, library hours, call-outs, etc. It's sold at most stores near campus, and all proceeds go to scholarships.

myPurdue: Purdue's student web portal, with access to registration, financial aid, bursar, and student organizations resources.

myPurdue Plan: Online tool for monitoring Undergraduate Plans of Study.

Old Oaken Bucket: A traveling trophy awarded to the winner of the Purdue-Indiana football game; dating back to 1925.

OWL: Online Writing Lab, designed to help students work on writing assignments via the Internet.

PMO: Purdue Musical Organizations. It includes the Glee Club, Purduettes, All-Campus Chorale, and Bell Choir.

POS: Plan of Study, the online Graduate degree plan that each Graduate student must complete.

PSG: Purdue Student Government, an all-campus student government that represents and provides service for students.

PSUB (pronounced "p-sub"): The Purdue Student Union Board plans student activities in the Purdue Memorial Union and Stewart Center.

PUID: PUID (Purdue Identification) refers to both your identification card and the 10-digit unique identification number printed on it. Use your PUID Card as a residence hall identification and meal card; check out items from the library; cash checks and purchase convocation and theater tickets; visit the Recreation Sports Center; and ride the CityBus.

Purdue Pete: Purdue's athletic mascot.

PUSH: The Purdue University Student Health Center is a place for students to go for medical care.

RA: Research Assistant or Resident Hall Assistant.

Recitation/PSO: A small group discussion class that meets once or twice weekly in addition to a large lecture. It allows the instructor to work with students to clarify lecture material and review homework and assignments. Quizzes are sometimes given in recitations, as well. Also called Practice, Study, Observation (PSO).

Rush: Rush (or "recruitment") activities are held by sororities, fraternities, and cooperative houses to select new members. Participate in rush if you are interested in joining a Greek or co-op house.

TA: Teaching Assistant. A TA is usually a graduate student who instructs a lecture, a recitation, or assists a professor with a class or with grading.

The Union: The Purdue Memorial Union (PMU), a center for many student activities, houses restaurants, the Sweet Shop, a video game room, bowling facilities, offices for many student organizations, lounges, an art gallery, a check cashing service, bank machines, and a hotel.

Wabash Landing: Shopping area east of campus on the edge of the river; has restaurants, shops, a hotel, and a movie theater.