

CHESS Connection

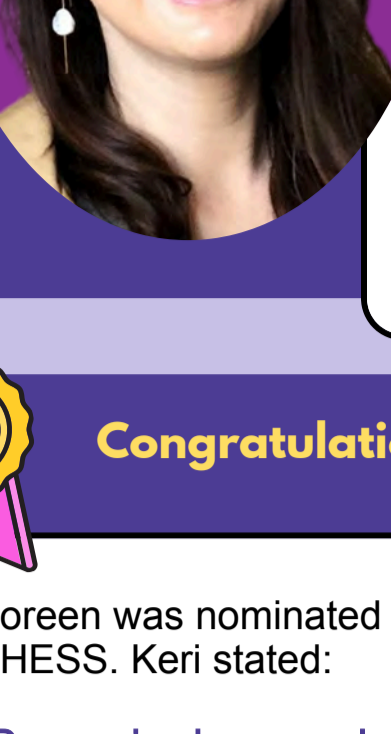


April 2026
Issue 2

Congratulations to Our Newest CHESS Superstars!

Congratulations to Julie Schroeder!

JULIE SCHROEDER
CAMPUSWORKS

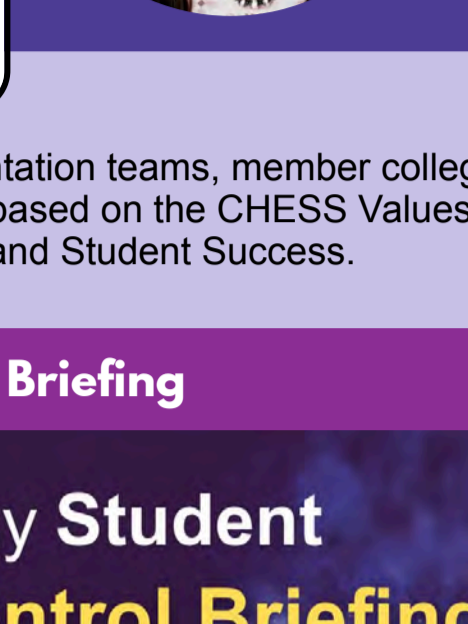


Julie was nominated for the CHESS Superstar award by Nick Taousakis of Workday. He notes:

"Julie Schroeder has demonstrated exceptional leadership by stepping into the role of the CHESS Testing Lead during a critical vacancy. Julie didn't just fill a gap; she elevated the entire function. Working seamlessly with the Erica Keppel, along with Workday, she took ownership of driving both Unit Testing and End-to-End (E2E) testing. Her ability to enhance the testing methodology and drive process improvements has significantly reduced risk and ensured a higher standard of quality for the project. She is a true "Superstar" who leads by example."

Congratulations to Doreen Jaramillo!

DOREEN JARAMILLO
CHESS



Doreen was nominated by Keri Magana of CHESS. Keri stated:

"Doreen is always so busy with her own work supporting CHESS and member institutions in Payroll configurations, troubleshooting, and daily activities. That said, she's somehow never too busy to help the Student project. She's always quick to test config, offer input, or answer questions as they arise from various workstreams as we identify touchpoints across the tenant. Just this week she volunteered to help a team member troubleshoot and complete PATT testing fitting this into her already busy schedule. We see you, Doreen, and we appreciate all that you do!"

CHESS Superstars are individuals on project implementation teams, member college employees, or CHESS employees who are recognized based on the CHESS Values of Collaboration, Honesty, Equity, Sustainability, and Student Success.

Attention Crew: This is a Mission Control Briefing



Workday Student Mission Control Briefings

This article kicks off our new **Mission Control Briefings** series, designed to keep faculty and staff informed and prepared as we approach Move to Production 1 (MTP1) - the first major "Go Live" milestone in our Workday Student implementation.

Behind the scenes, project teams are hard at work preparing the Workday Student system for the next phase. They are completing what's called the **End-to-End (E2E) Tenant Build**, which will bring together all the pieces of the system, so it works as one. This includes academic structures, business processes, security, and data. The goal is to create a realistic setup where colleges can walk through everyday student activities, like applying, registering, and paying tuition, to ensure everything works smoothly from start to finish.

Think of this step like putting all the parts of a system together before a big test run. It allows teams to see how everything connects, catch any issues early, and make improvements along the way.

As we move closer to Move to Production (MTP1), this work is critical. It helps ensure the system is stable, reliable, and ready for full testing, setting the stage for a smoother transition when we officially go live.

Be sure to watch for new **Mission Control Briefings** in future editions of the CHESS Connection. Upcoming topics will include data validation in Workday, readiness review insights from the Customer Readiness Survey, and a closer look at the Pre-Production Build.

Stay tuned and check out our **Key Projects Dates** timeline below.

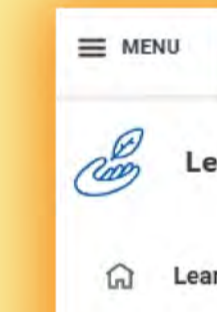
Workday Student Key Project Dates



Note: Although all colleges share the same Move to Production (MTP) dates, the dates when specific functionalities become available may vary. Each college will inform its employees about these dates separately.

Workday Student (SIS) Spotlight Series: Recruiting & Admissions

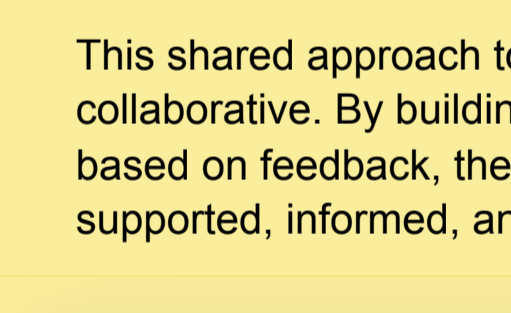
This is the first in a series of snapshots exploring how Workday Student (SIS) will support different functional areas across the college. Below, we highlight **Recruiting and Admissions** features, showcasing how a more centralized system will improve visibility, efficiency, and communication throughout the applicant journey.



Recruiting / Admissions Workday Student (SIS) Key Features

Key Activity	Workday Student	What This Means for You:
Application Submission	• Applications submitted and managed through Workday admissions processes.	• A more centralized admissions workflow.
Applicant Status Tracking	• Applicant status visible in one dashboard.	• Faster review of applicant progress.
Document Tracking	• Documents tracked directly within the applicant record.	• Easier monitoring of missing materials.
Admissions Decisions	• Decisions recorded and communicated through Workday workflows.	• Streamlined decision processing.
Communication with Applicants	• Communication activities can be tracked in Workday.	• More consistent communication history.

Discover Workday Learning



Employees across CHESS and member colleges are encouraged to explore the **Discover** feature in Workday Learning to access a wide range of professional development and role-based training opportunities. After selecting Discover, choose the "Browse Learning Topics" card, and then select a topic by clicking on one of the thumbnails to explore the available content.

In addition to popular courses on leadership, communication, and project management, CHESS offers some shared content, categorized under "CHESS Shared Content" in Workday Learning. These include **Getting Started in Workday for Employees**, **Getting Started in Workday for Faculty**, and **Getting Started in Workday for Managers**, which provide essential guidance tailored to each role.

This shared approach to training reflects the strength of the CHESS collaborative. By building the resources together and continuously improving them based on feedback, the Training Team is ensuring that employees are supported, informed, and prepared for what's ahead.

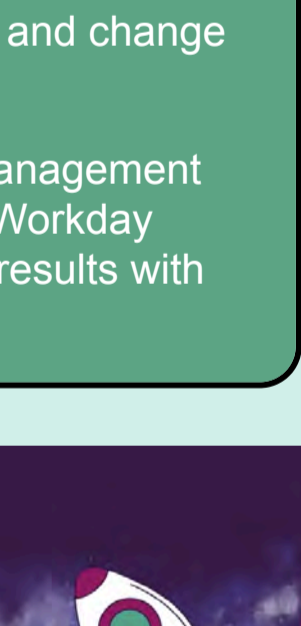
For additional details, click [here](#) to view your college's Training Team contact.

Did You Complete the Readiness Survey?

Many CHESS member colleges invited all staff and faculty to participate in the Workday Student (SIS) **Readiness Survey**. This was an opportunity to share impressions about the implementation of Workday Student (SIS) and upcoming changes.

The survey results are being analyzed now and will help the project team assess employee awareness of the Workday Student (SIS) Project and the overall readiness for the transition to Workday Student. It will also identify opportunities to strengthen communication, training, and change management efforts across our member colleges.

Your feedback will directly impact Organizational Change Management (OCM) and training planning and improvements across the Workday Student project. Next issue, we hope to share some survey results with you. Thanks to everyone who participated!



Click [here](#) to fill out the Change Agent Volunteer form.

Unify. Empower. Streamline.



Congratulations to the new Workday Student Change Agents who have already been selected!

A complete list of the new Workday Student Change Agents can be found [here](#). The names are at the bottom of this web page. To view the names, click on the name of each member college.

CHESS Jobs

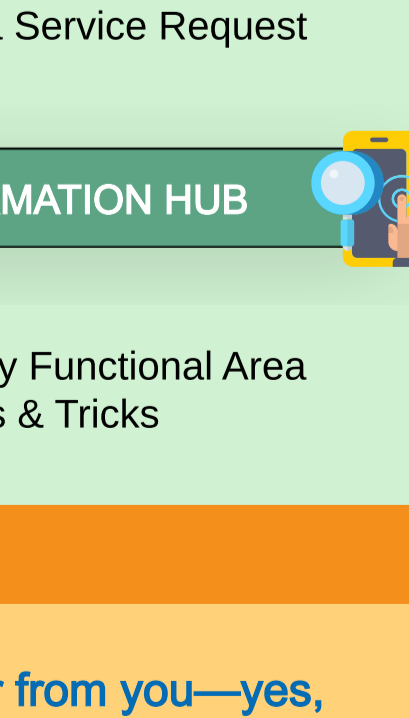
Now Hiring

- Organizational Change Management (OCM) Workstream Lead
- Financial Aid Verification & Processing Specialist

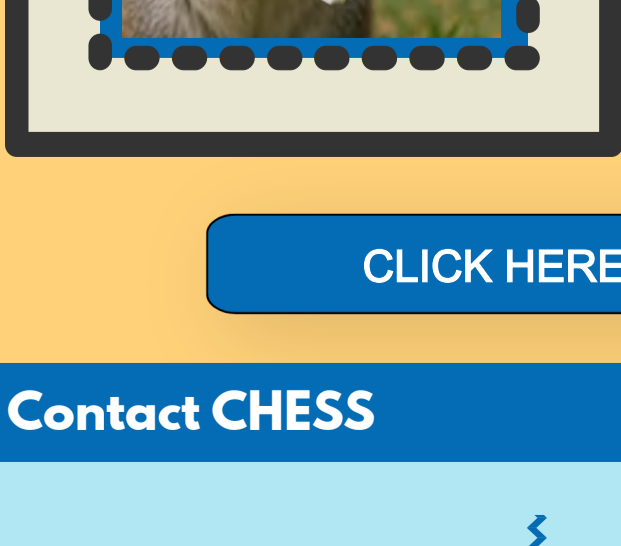
View our open positions at chess.edu

Quick Access to the Technology Support Hub

The **Technology Support Hub** is located within the Member Hub on the CHESS website. The pull-down menus will quickly get you to the right information. Use the buttons below to get the information you need most!



Your Feedback Is Important!



We want to hear from you—yes, you!

Whether you've got brilliant ideas, helpful suggestions, or just want to give CHESS the Squirrel a virtual high-five, this is your chance to speak up. Your feedback helps us make CHESS even better for everyone. So go nuts and drop us a line—CHESS'S all ears (and tail)!

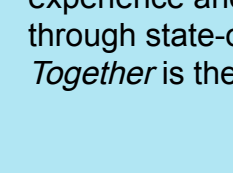
[CLICK HERE TO LEAVE FEEDBACK](#)

Contact CHESS

Do you have any questions? Do you have suggestions for new stories?

CONTACT:

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The *CHESS Connection* provides news about CHESS and our Workday Enterprise Resource Planning and Student Information System projects. Please feel free to share.

CHESS, the Collaborative for Higher Education Shared Services, is a nonprofit comprised of member colleges that employs a unique approach to transform the student experience and streamline administrative operations through state-of-the-art technologies. *Mission: All Together* is the CHESS initiative to launch Workday.