

Congratulations to Our Newest CHESS Superstars!

Congratulations to the CHESS Team Dynamix (TDX) Implementation Team



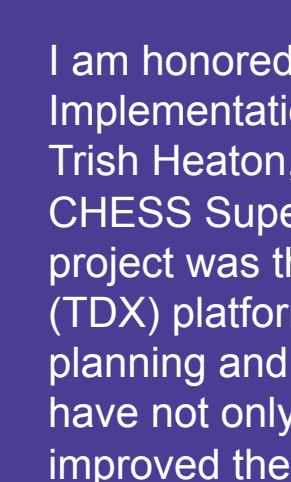
Kandis Martinez



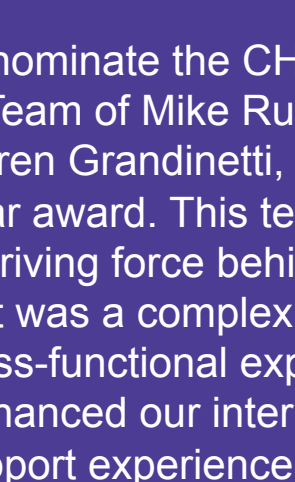
Mike Russell



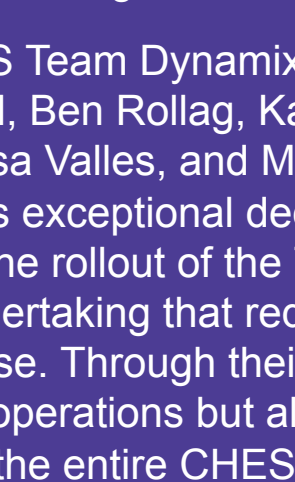
Trish Heaton



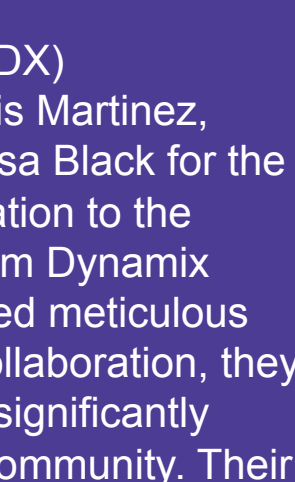
Ben Rollag



Karen Grandinetti



Tessa Valles



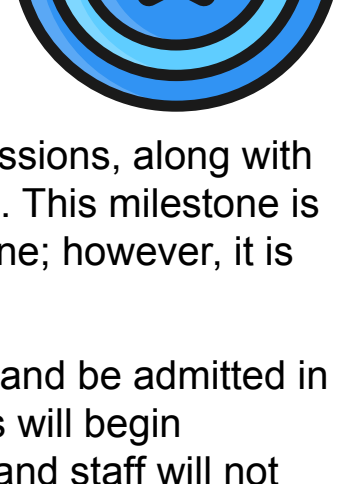
Melissa Black

This nomination is submitted by Dr. Mindy Watson, Chief Administrative Officer for CHESS, who shared the following:

I am honored to nominate the CHESS Team Dynamix (TDX) Implementation Team of Mike Russell, Ben Rollag, Kandis Martinez, Trish Heaton, Karen Grandinetti, Tessa Valles, and Melissa Black for the CHESS Superstar award. This team's exceptional dedication to the project was the driving force behind the rollout of the Team Dynamix (TDX) platform. It was a complex undertaking that required meticulous planning and cross-functional expertise. Through their collaboration, they have not only enhanced our internal operations but also significantly improved the support experience for the entire CHESS community. Their collective commitment to excellence, proactive problem-solving, and collaborative spirit truly embodies what it means to be a CHESS Superstar.

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.

MTP1: The First Step in a Smooth Approach to Go Live!



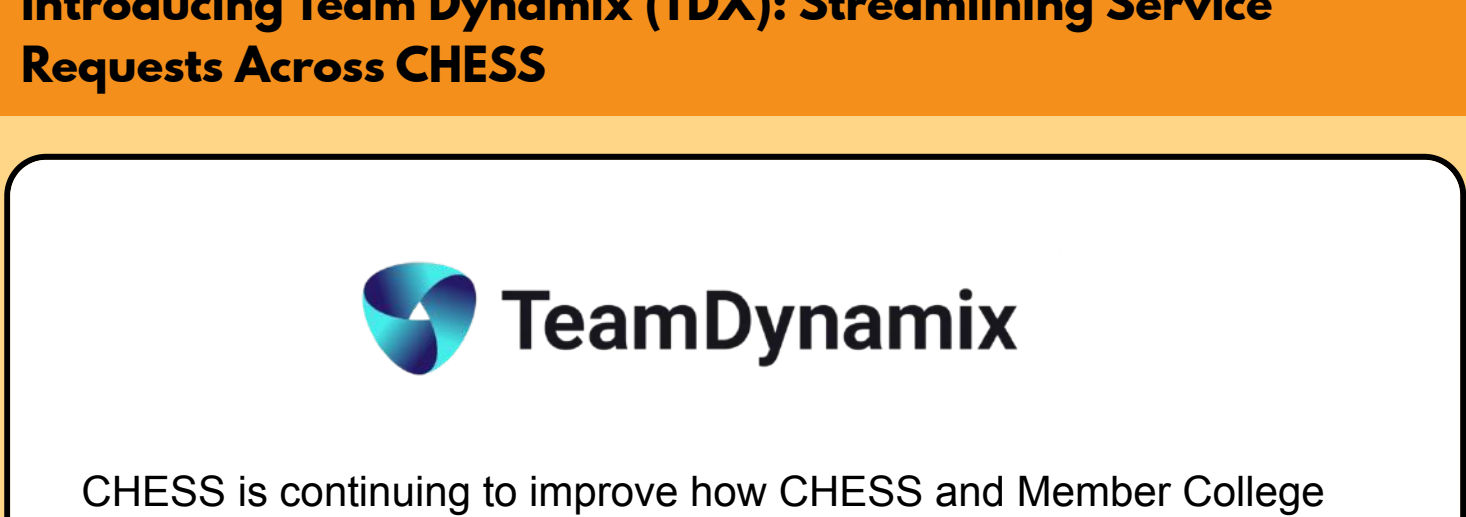
As we approach the **Move to Production 1 (MTP1)** milestone on September 21, 2026, it is helpful to clarify what this phase includes and what it does not.

MTP1 marks the first activation of Workday Student functionality, focused primarily on Recruiting and Admissions, along with elements of Financial Aid such as FAFSA/ISIR loading. This milestone is an important achievement in the implementation timeline; however, it is not the primary student system go-live.

Beginning at MTP1, applicants for Fall 2027 will apply and be admitted in Workday Student. Admissions and Financial Aid teams will begin working in Workday for these applicants. Most faculty and staff will not experience immediate changes, as advising, registration, billing, grading, and other academic processes will continue in the legacy system until a later milestone.

During this phase, Admissions will operate in both systems: earlier terms in the legacy system and Fall 2027 forward in Workday. Students admitted for Fall 2027 will enter Workday at MTP1 but will complete registration and related activities after a subsequent milestone.

This phased approach ensures a steady, well-supported transition as we move toward full implementation in fall 2027.



Introducing Team Dynamix (TDX): Streamlining Service Requests Across CHESS

TeamDynamix

CHESS is continuing to improve how CHESS and Member College employees request and receive support, and Team Dynamix (TDX) is an important part of that effort. TDX is the new platform that CHESS is using to manage and track service requests that colleges escalate for additional assistance. When your college Help/Service Desk or Subject Matter Experts enter a request to CHESS, TDX ensures it reaches the right team members, moves through workflow efficiently, and keeps communication clear every step of the way.

TDX works hand-in-hand with the established Service Request Hub, which remains the starting point for all your Workday & CHESS-related support needs. Employees should continue submitting requests through their college's Help/Service Desk. Each college's support team works with Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to resolve issues, escalating cases to the CHESS ESS Team through TDX. This ensures requests are routed properly while maintaining each college's internal support processes.

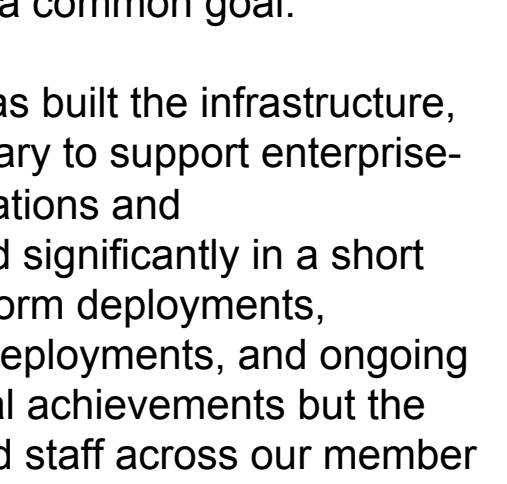
If your role requires the ability to submit cases directly to CHESS, your college's Help/Service Desk can assist with initiating the approval process. Once approved, you'll be granted direct access to submit cases through TDX. You will receive a notification once you are set up as an authorized submitter.

Together, the Service Request Hub and Team Dynamix create a smooth, structured pathway for handling support needs, providing clarity, transparency, and faster resolution for all CHESS member colleges.

If you have questions about submitting service requests or the TDX escalation process, connect with your college's Help/Service Desk.

[CHESS SERVICE REQUEST HUB](#)

CHESS Officially Turns Five!



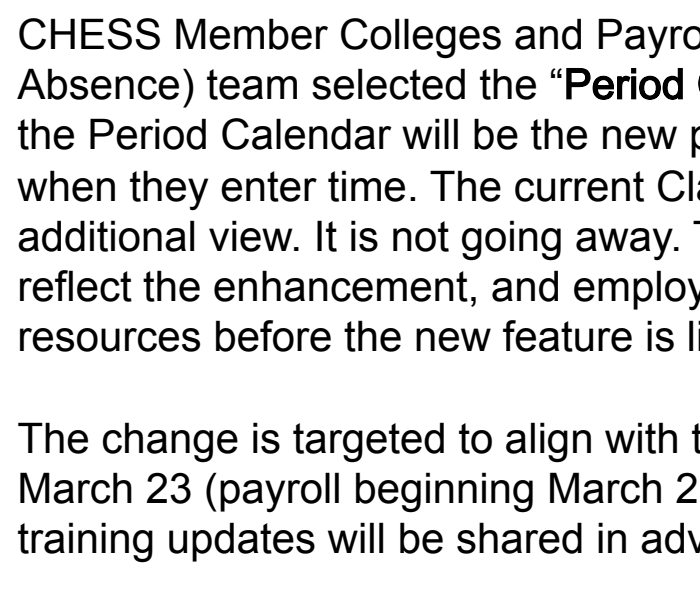
On March 3, 2026, **CHESS officially turns five!** This is a major milestone that reflects vision, partnership, and a shared commitment to doing things differently. What began as an ambitious collaboration to launch an ERP among member colleges has grown into a strong, innovative collaborative dedicated to modernizing systems, streamlining operations, and strengthening services across our member colleges. In just five years, CHESS has moved from foundational planning to full implementation, demonstrating what is possible when colleges work together toward a common goal.

Since its launch on March 3, 2021, CHESS has built the infrastructure, governance, and collaborative culture necessary to support enterprise-wide transformation. From system implementations and shared services, the organization has matured significantly in a short period of time. Milestones such as major platform deployments, coordinated release cycles, shared services deployments, and ongoing optimization efforts represent not just technical achievements but the collective dedication of leadership, faculty, and staff across our member colleges.

As we celebrate five years, we also look ahead. The next chapter for CHESS includes expanded shared services opportunities, continued Workday system enhancements, the phased milestones of Workday Student, deeper collaboration among colleges, an eye toward expanding with additional colleges, and a sustained focus on delivering value to our campus communities. This anniversary is not only a celebration of progress but also a reminder of the strong partnerships that fuel our success.

Thank you to everyone who contributes to CHESS's journey. The work continues, and the future is bright.

Workday Release Update (2026R1)

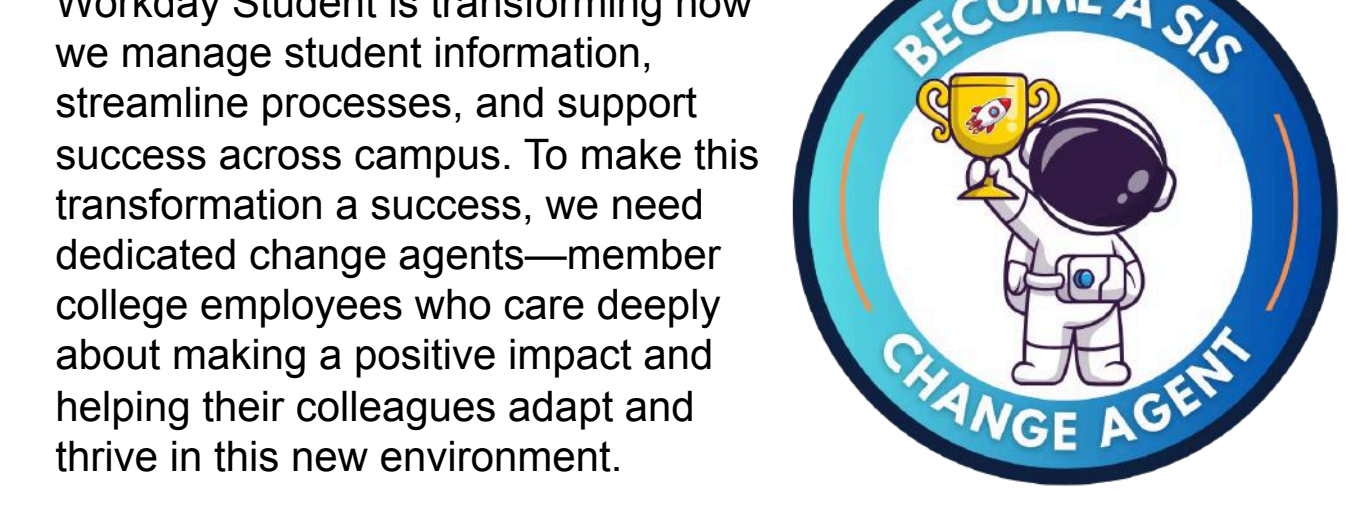


As part of the 2026R1 Release on March 14, 2026, in Workday, CHESS member colleges will see an enhancement to **Time Tracking** that introduces a **Period Calendar** view for time entry.

Workday displays a period view on the time entry calendar that matches the period schedule. This makes it easy for managers and workers to enter all time for a period at once.

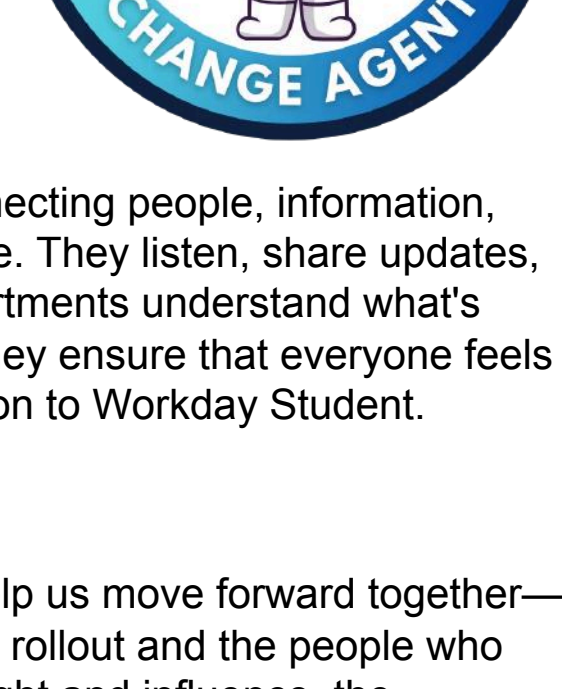
CHESS Member Colleges and Payroll TTAB (Payroll, Time Tracking and Absence) team selected the "Period Calendar" option. This means that the Period Calendar will be the new primary view an employee sees when they enter time. The current Classic Calendar will become an additional view. It is not going away. Training materials will be updated to reflect the enhancement, and employees will be directed to the revised resources before the new feature is live on March 21, 2026.

The change is targeted to align with the start of a pay period, the week of March 23 (payroll beginning March 21). Additional communications and training updates will be shared in advance to support a smooth transition.



Empower Change. Shape the Future. Become a Workday Student Change Agent!

Workday Student is transforming how we manage student information, streamline processes, and support success across campus. To make this transformation a success, we need dedicated change agents—member college employees who care deeply about making a positive impact and helping their colleagues adapt and thrive in this new environment.



Change agents play a vital role in connecting people, information, and innovation at each member college. They listen, share updates, answer questions, and help their departments understand what's changing and why. Most importantly, they ensure that everyone feels supported and confident as we transition to Workday Student.

Your involvement matters.

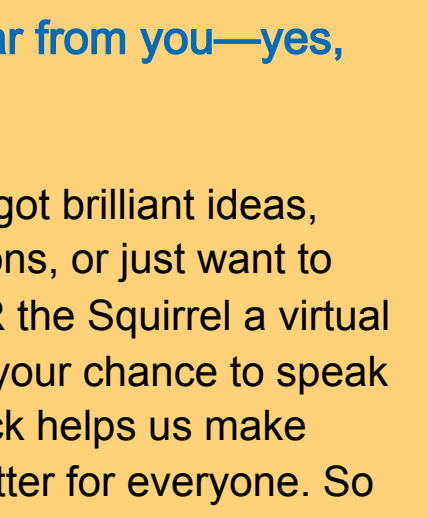
By becoming a change agent, you'll help us move forward together—bridging the gap between the technical rollout and the people who use Workday every day. With your insight and influence, the Workday Student implementation will be smoother, faster, and more successful for everyone.

Become a change agent to help lead the way to a more connected and efficient campus experience!

[Click Here for the Mission Change Agent Volunteer Application](#)

Quick Access to the Technology Support Hub

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



SERVICE REQUEST HUB

- Create a New Service Request Ticket
- Follow Up on a Service Request

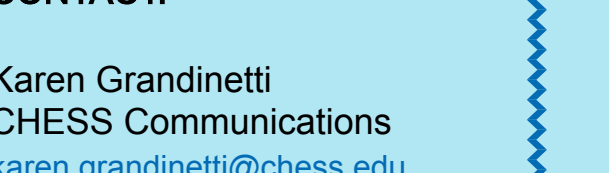
- Scheduled Maintenance
- Tenant Management
- Current Outages (Coming Soon)

TENANT INFORMATION HUB

REPORTING HUB

- Top Reports by Functional Area
- Reporting Tips & Tricks

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 transfer the student experience and streamline administrative operations through state-of-the-art technologies. **Mission: All Together** is the CHESS initiative to launch Workday.*