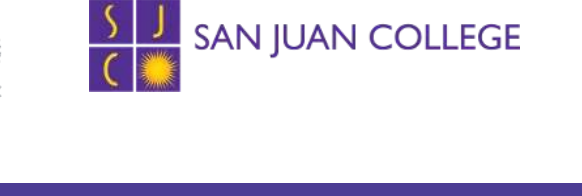


CHES Connection

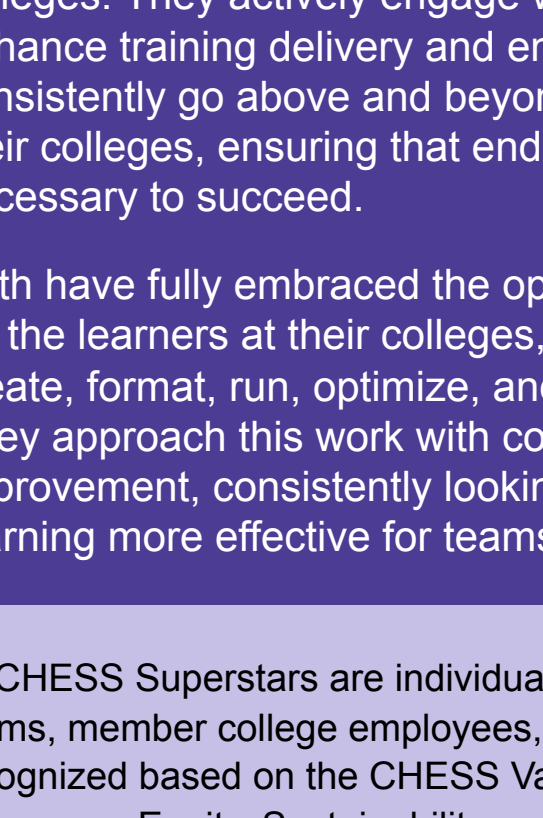


March 2026
Issue 2

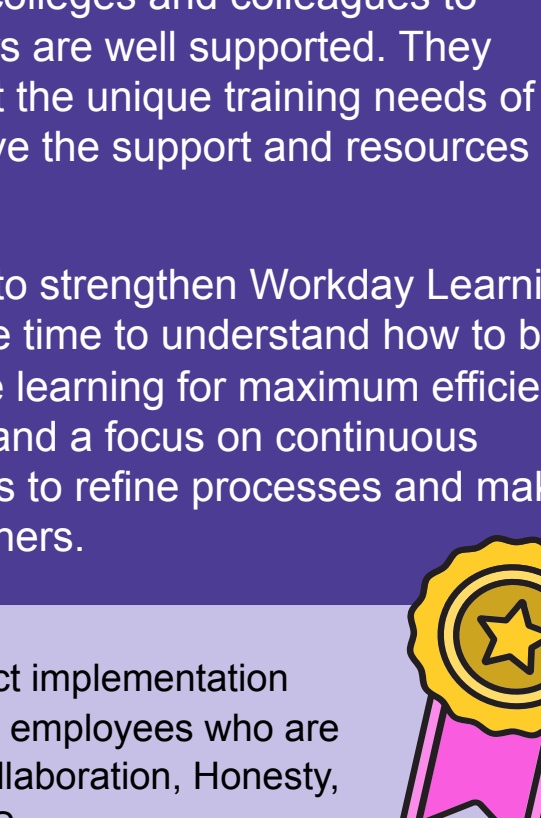
Congratulations to Our Newest CHES Superstar!

Maverick Mares and Daniel Massey

MAVERICK MARES LCC



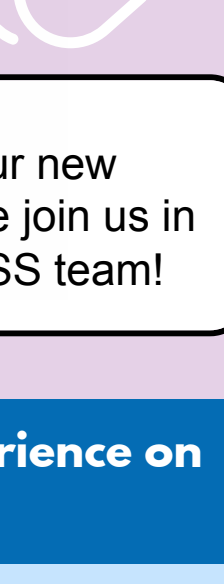
DANIEL MASSEY SJC



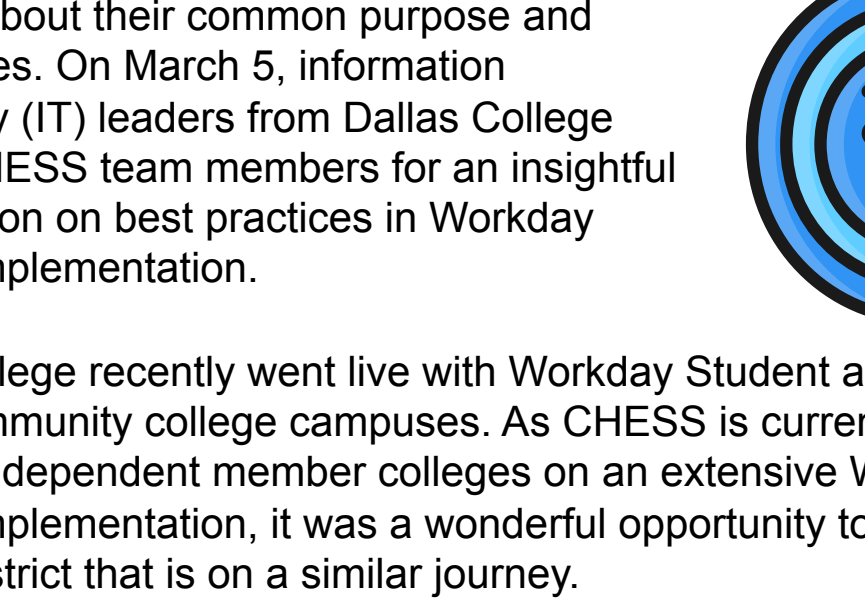
Maverick and Daniel are being recognized for their outstanding dedication to improving end-user training experiences at each of their individual colleges. They actively engage with their colleges and colleagues to enhance training delivery and ensure users are well supported. They consistently go above and beyond to meet the unique training needs of their colleges, ensuring that end users have the support and resources necessary to succeed.

Both have fully embraced the opportunity to strengthen Workday Learning for the learners at their colleges, taking the time to understand how to best create, format, run, optimize, and evaluate learning for maximum efficiency. They approach this work with confidence and a focus on continuous improvement, consistently looking for ways to refine processes and make learning more effective for teams and learners.

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



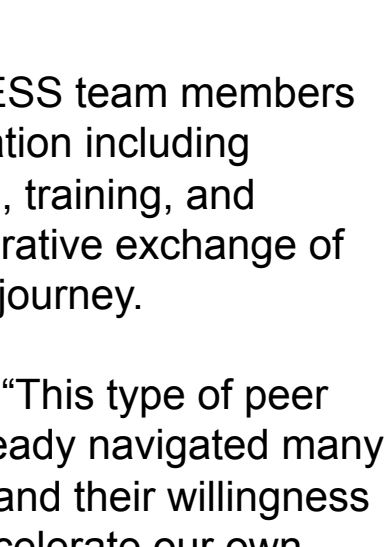
Welcome to the CHES Team!



We're thrilled to welcome **Abby Muniz** to CHES as our new Financial Aid Verification and Processing Specialist. Please join us in giving Abby a warm and enthusiastic welcome to the CHES team!

Dallas College hosts CHES for a Peer Learning Experience on Workday Student

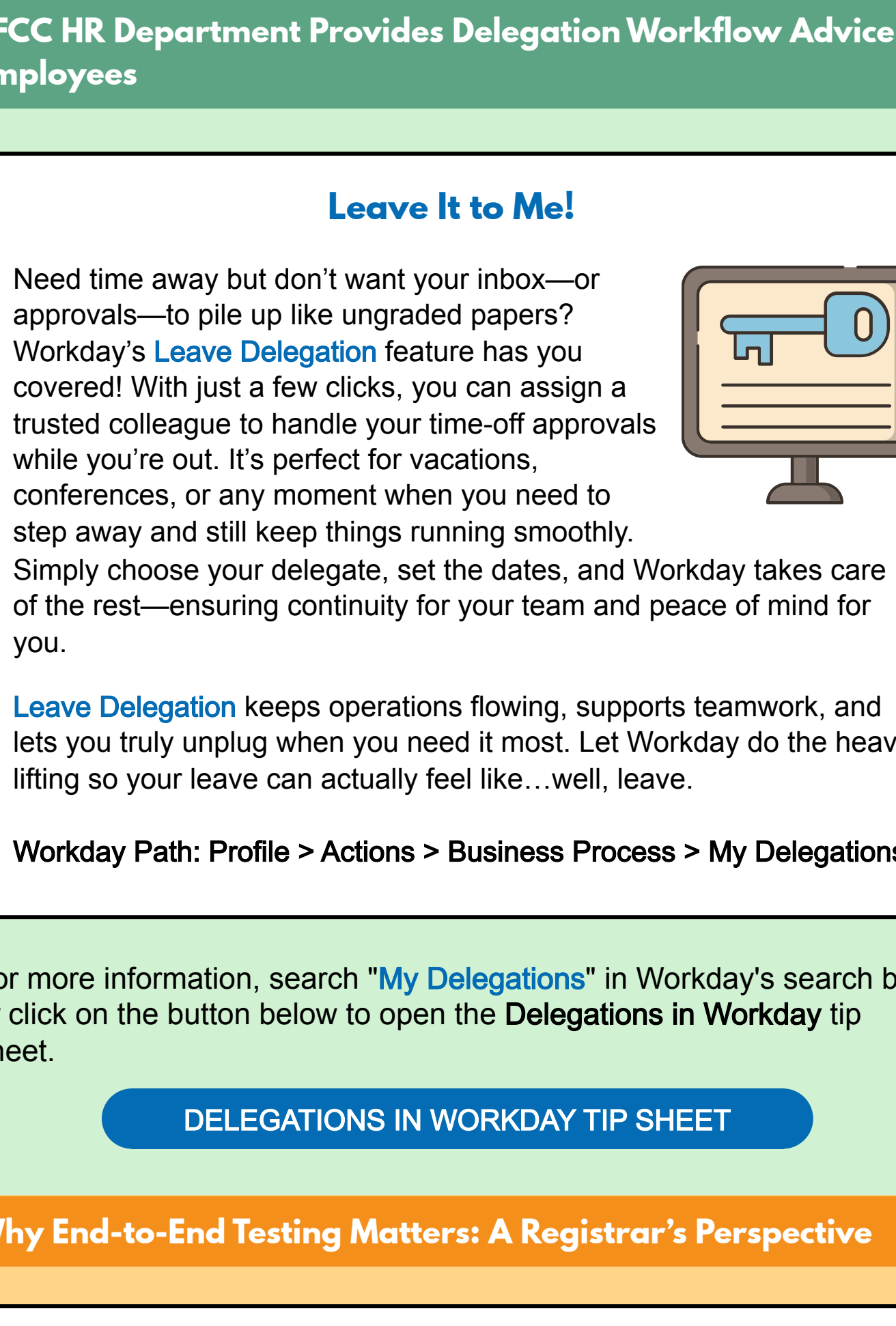
Learning happens when peers engage in dialogue about their common purpose and experiences. On March 5, information technology (IT) leaders from Dallas College hosted CHES team members for an insightful conversation on best practices in Workday Student implementation.



Dallas College recently went live with Workday Student across its seven community college campuses. As CHES is currently working with five independent member colleges on an extensive Workday Student implementation, it was a wonderful opportunity to learn from a college district that is on a similar journey.

Together, IT leaders from Dallas College and CHES team members discussed topics on Workday Student implementation including integrations, project governance, communications, training, and lessons learned. The meeting served as a collaborative exchange of ideas that will benefit CHES's Workday Student journey.

According to CHES CEO, Dr. Shaun McAlmont, "This type of peer engagement is invaluable. Dallas College has already navigated many of the decisions we are actively working through, and their willingness to share both successes and challenges helps accelerate our own readiness. It is a reminder that collaboration across institutions strengthens outcomes for everyone involved. When institutions are willing to share their experiences openly, it accelerates learning for everyone. Our peer learning efforts are providing practical insights that will directly strengthen CHES's approach to implementation and readiness."

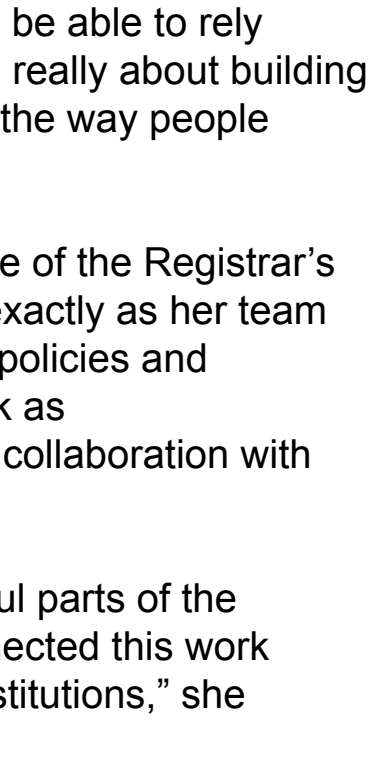


Pictured from left to right from CHES are Henry Killackey, Dr. Dani Day, Michael Chavez-Kerr (MCK), Erica Keppel, Nina Patel Sukhyani, and Dr. Shaun McAlmont.

SFCC HR Department Provides Delegation Workflow Advice to Employees

Leave it to Me!

Need time away but don't want your inbox—or approvals—to pile up like ungraded papers? Workday's **Leave Delegation** feature has you covered! With just a few clicks, you can assign a trusted colleague to handle your time-off approvals while you're out. It's perfect for vacations, conferences, or any moment when you need to step away and still keep things running smoothly. Simply choose your delegate, set the dates, and Workday takes care of the rest—ensuring continuity for your team and peace of mind for you.



Leave Delegation keeps operations flowing, supports teamwork, and lets you truly unplug when you need it most. Let Workday do the heavy lifting so your leave can actually feel like...well, leave.

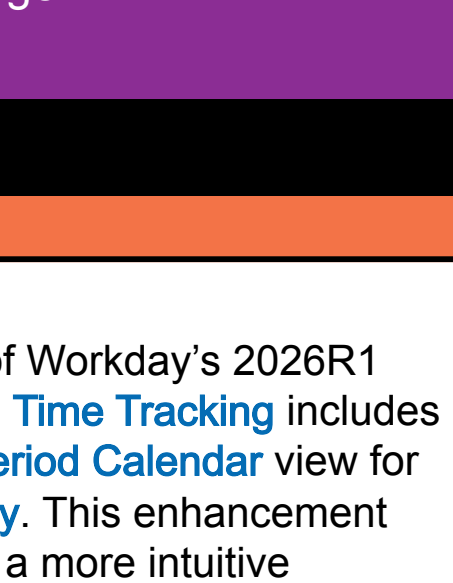
Workday Path: Profile > Actions > Business Process > My Delegations

For more information, search "**My Delegations**" in Workday's search bar or click on the button below to open the **Delegations in Workday** tip sheet.

[DELEGATIONS IN WORKDAY TIP SHEET](#)

Why End-to-End Testing Matters: A Registrar's Perspective

As CHES colleges move deeper into End-to-End (E2E) testing Workday Student (SIS), the work happening behind the scenes is critical to ensuring a smooth experience for everyone when the system goes live.



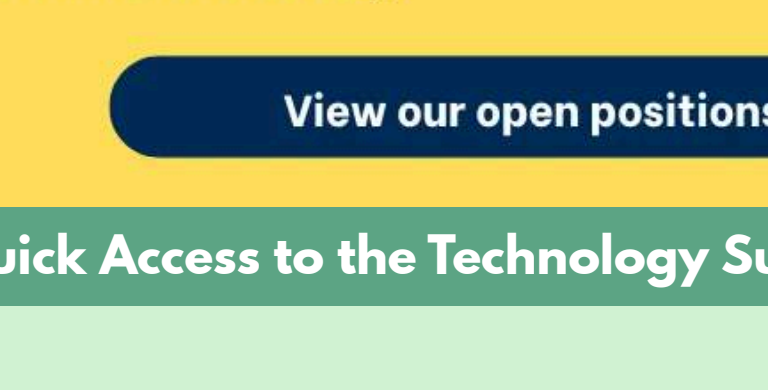
At Santa Fe Community College (SFCC), Registrar **Bernadette Gonzales** is playing a key role in that effort. As the Workstream Lead for Academic Foundations and Student Records, she is helping test how the system performs across the full student lifecycle from admissions through grading and beyond.

E2E testing is designed to ensure that all parts of the system work together seamlessly. That means testing real-life scenarios across admissions, registration, financial processes, reporting, and more, not just individually, but as a connected experience. "We're looking at the system from every perspective (students, faculty, and staff) to make sure information flows correctly, and processes work the way they should," Gonzales explained.

For future users, that work translates directly into a better experience. Students should be able to register, track their progress, and access information without confusion. Faculty and staff should be able to rely on accurate data and consistent processes. "Testing is really about building trust," she said. "We're making sure the system works the way people expect it to before it ever goes live."

As a tester, Gonzales brings the day-to-day perspective of the Registrar's Office into the process. She walks through scenarios exactly as her team would, validating that outcomes align with institutional policies and academic requirements. When something doesn't work as expected, it's documented, reviewed, and improved in collaboration with teams across CHES.

That collaboration has been one of the most meaningful parts of the experience. "What's been remarkable is how interconnected this work is, not just within our college, but across all CHES institutions," she shared. "We're building something together."



Bernadette Gonzales, SFCC, collaborates with Erica Keppel, Lead Functional Project Manager, at the Customer Confirmation Session in January 2026.

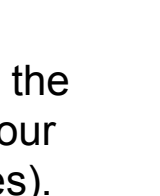
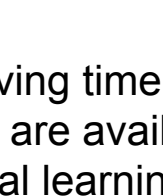
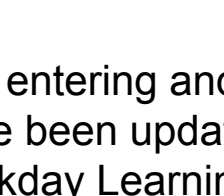
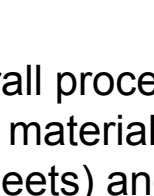
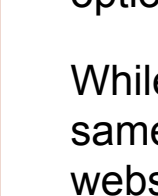
While the work is detailed and demanding, Gonzales finds it deeply rewarding. The effort invested today will shape a system that supports students, faculty, and staff for years to come.

And that's exactly the goal of E2E testing: ensuring that when the system goes live, it works clearly, reliably, and confidently for everyone.

Workday Student Change Agents Wanted

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 see the names, click on the name of each member college.

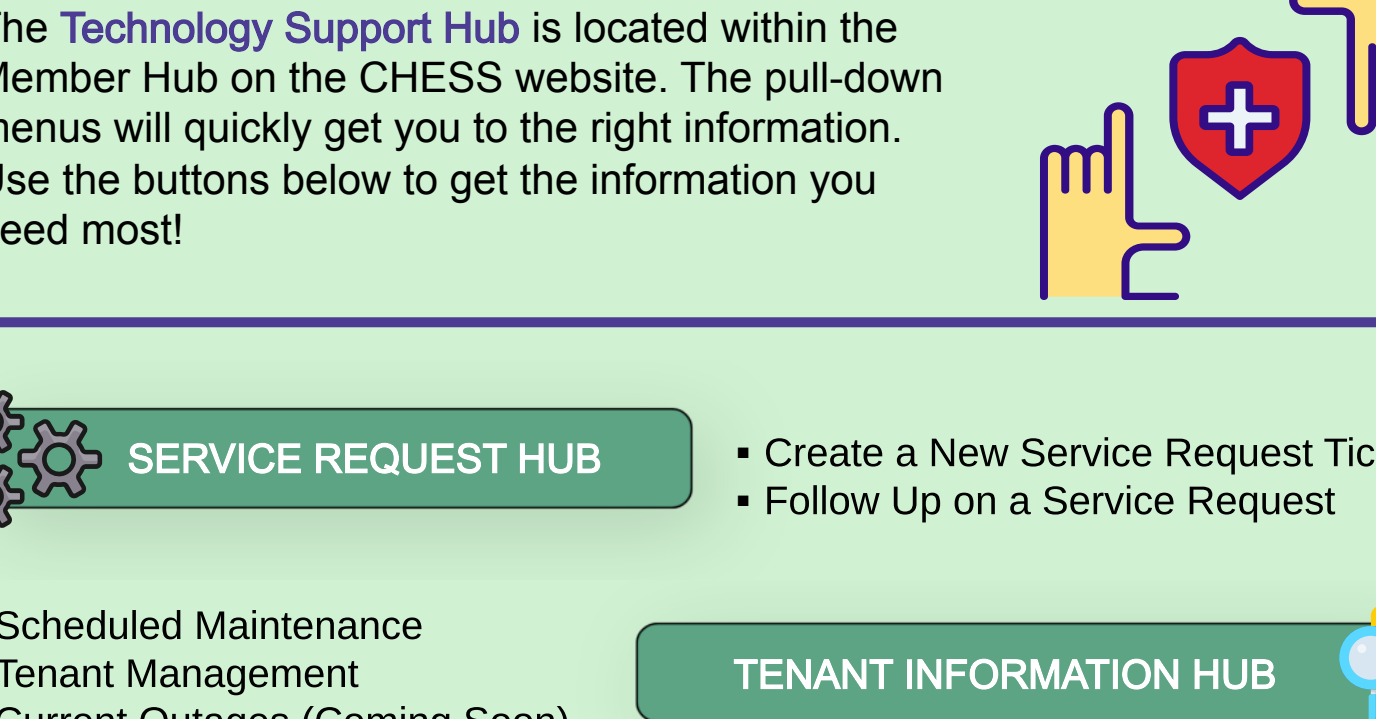
Workday Release Update (2026R1)



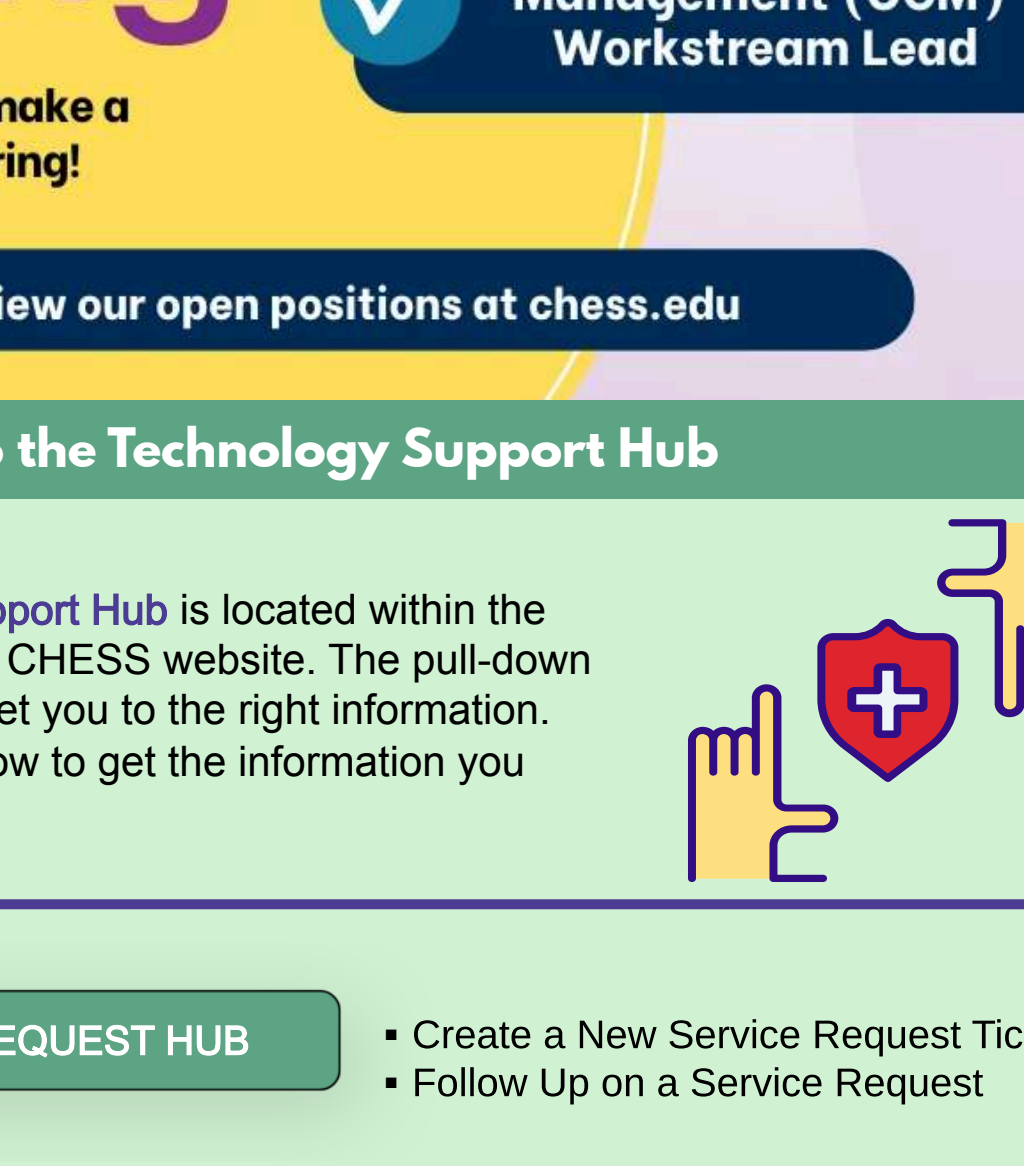
As part of Workday's 2026R1 Release, **Time Tracking** includes a new **Period Calendar** view for **time entry**. This enhancement provides a more intuitive interface, embedded help text, and the ability to print a calendar for a selected period.

Colleges reviewed the new views and selected the "Period Calendar" option. This means that employees will see this new view first as they go to enter time. The classic calendar will remain as an additional view option.

While the overall process for entering and approving time remains the same, training materials have been updated and are available on our website (tip sheets) and Workday Learning (digital learning courses).



CHES Jobs



Now Hiring

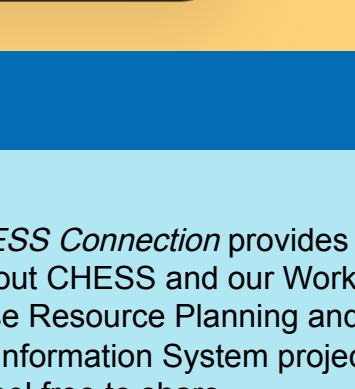
Organizational Change Management (OCM) Workstream Lead

Join our team and make a difference—now hiring!

[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 CHES 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
- TENANT INFORMATION HUB**
 - Scheduled Maintenance
 - Tenant Management
 - Current Outages (Coming Soon)
- 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 CHESSTER the Squirrel a virtual high-five, this is your chance to speak up. Your feedback helps us make CHES even better for everyone. So go nuts and drop us a line—CHESSTER'S all ears (and tail)!

[CLICK HERE TO LEAVE FEEDBACK](#)

Contact CHES

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

CONTACT:

Karen Grandinetti
CHES Communications
karen.grandinetti@chess.edu

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

CHES, 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 CHES initiative to launch Workday.