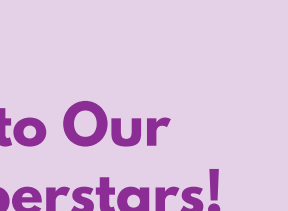


CHESS Connection

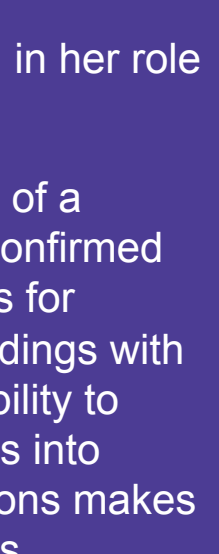


November 2025, Issue 1

CHESS Superstars



Congratulations to Our Newest CHESS Superstars!



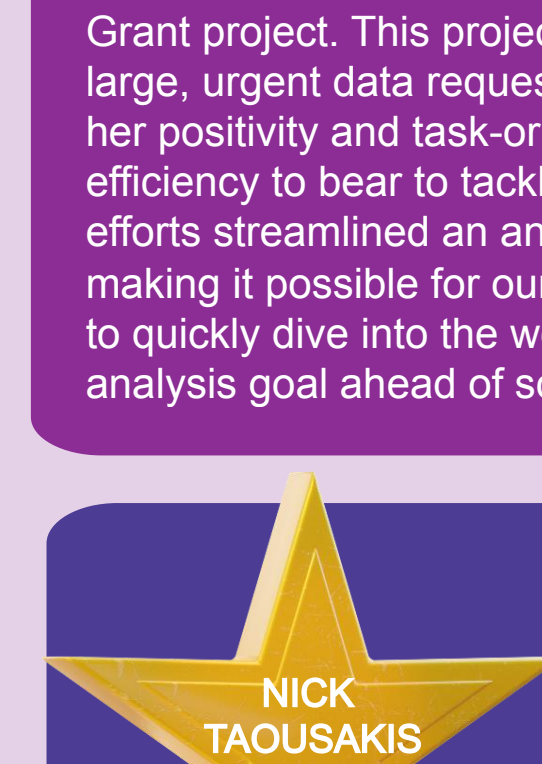
Erin's nomination came from Bernadette Gonzales, SFCC. Bernadette wrote:

"Erin consistently goes above and beyond in her role as our consultant."



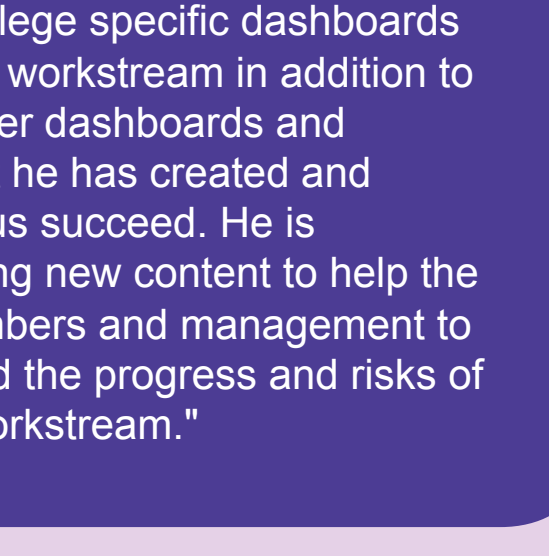
Erin not only identified the root cause of a recent issue — but also tested and confirmed the solution, provided clear next steps for correction, and communicated the findings with precision and professionalism. Her ability to translate complex configuration issues into understandable and actionable solutions makes a tremendous difference for our teams.

Thank you, Erin, for your patience, collaboration, and unwavering commitment to helping us ensure accurate student outcomes. You truly embody the CHESS spirit of teamwork and excellence!"



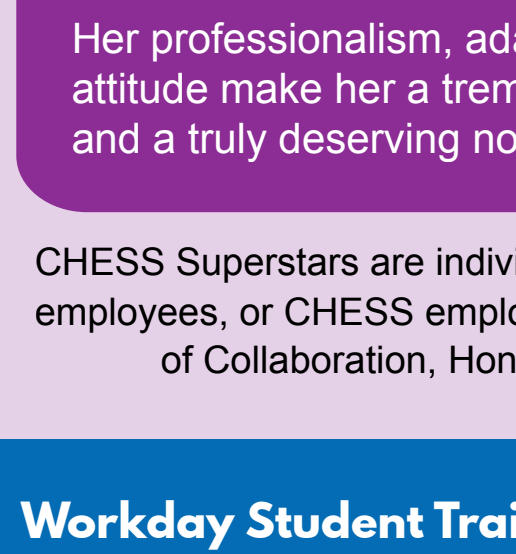
Kristen's nomination came from Mindy Watson with CHESS. Mindy wrote:

"I would like to nominate Kristen Howard for the CHESS Superstar – Collaboration award for her contributions to our Cybersecurity Grant project. This project recently had a large, urgent data request, and Kristen brought her positivity and task-oriented organizational efficiency to bear to tackle the request. Her efforts streamlined an analysis process, making it possible for our other team members to quickly dive into the work and achieve our analysis goal ahead of schedule."



Nick's nomination came from Debbie DesJardins with CHESS. Debbie wrote:

"Nick Taousakis exemplifies the CHESS Value of Collaboration. He went out of his way to create college specific dashboards for the Reporting Workstream in addition to the myriad of other dashboards and Smartsheets that he has created and updated to help us succeed. He is constantly creating new content to help the workstream members and management to better understand the progress and risks of the Reporting Workstream."

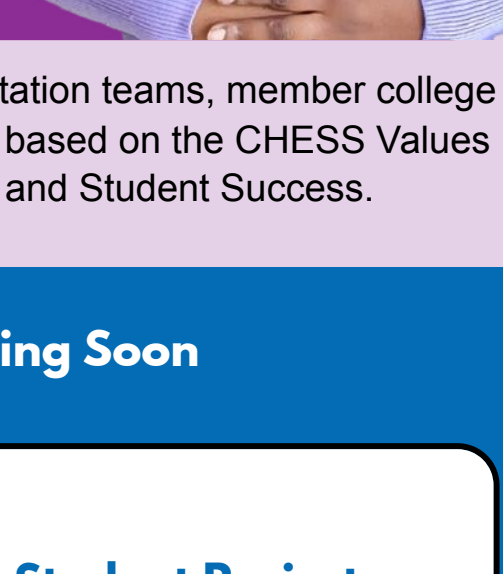


Nichelle's nomination came from Ryan Agosto-Hayes with CHESS. Ryan wrote:

"From day one, Nichelle has exceeded expectations. She has diligently learned the Luna Community College systems and quickly adapted to Workday with minimal guidance. Her self-directed approach to training, combined with her strong work ethic, has made a significant impact in a short amount of time."

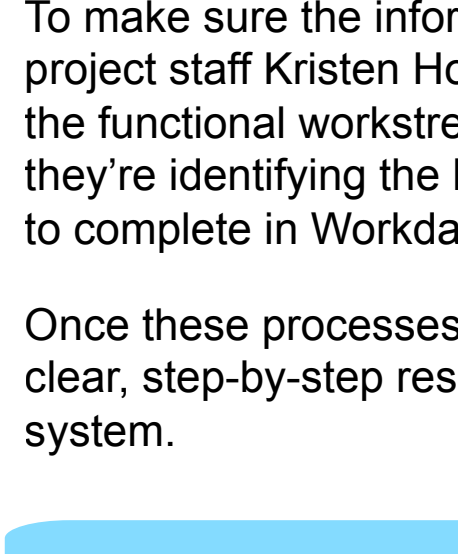
Nichelle consistently asks insightful and thoughtful questions, demonstrating her deep understanding and commitment to improving our processes. In her role assisting the Financial Aid Workstream Lead, she has earned the respect of her peers by helping guide schools through deadlines, sharing detailed notes, and offering valuable observations that enhance collaboration and efficiency.

Her professionalism, adaptability, and proactive attitude make her a tremendous asset to our team and a truly deserving nominee for this recognition."



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.

Workday Student Training Materials Coming Soon



The Workday Student Project Training Team is developing easy-to-use materials—like tip sheets and guides—to help employees learn how to use the new student information system.

To make sure the information is accurate and relevant, CHESS project staff Kristen Howard and Henry Killackey are meeting with the functional workstreams who know the system best. Together, they're identifying the key business processes employees will need to complete in Workday Student.

Once these processes are confirmed, the Training Team will create clear, step-by-step resources to support everyone who uses the system.

The partnership between the workstreams and the Organizational Change Management (OCM) team helps ensure that training materials are accurate and make the system easier for staff and students," said Killackey.

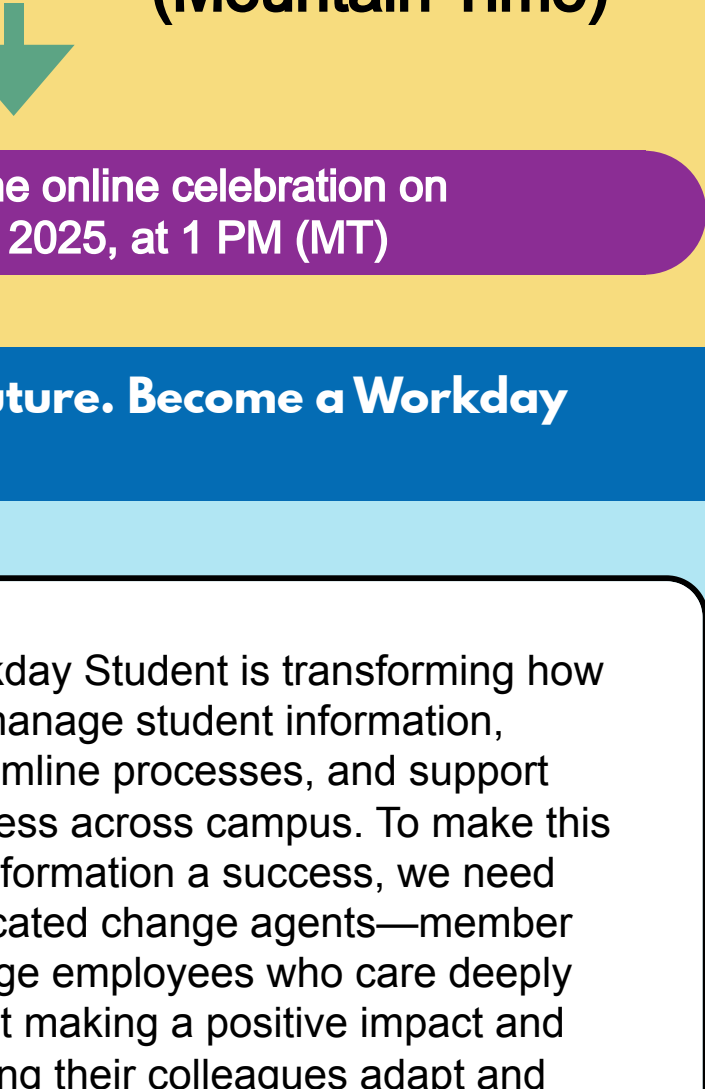


These training materials will be shared before Workday Student goes live so end users are well prepared for the transition.

You're Invited to the CHESS 5th Anniversary Celebration

All CHESS Member College Employees and CHESS Partners are Invited to Join Us!

Join us online for the CHESS 5th Anniversary Celebration, Collaborating for Student Success!

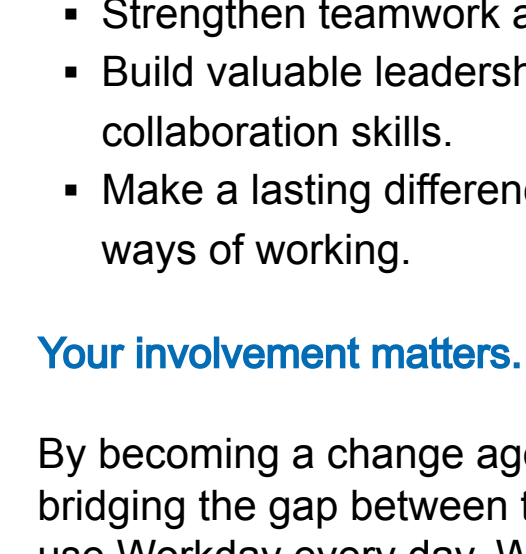


When: Friday, November 14, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM (Mountain Time)

Click this button to join the online celebration on Friday, November 14, 2025, at 1 PM (MT)

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 transition 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.

Why become a Change Agent?

- Be among the first to learn about new processes and tools in Workday Student.
- Influence how your department adopts and benefits from the new system.
- Strengthen teamwork and enhance campus-wide collaboration.
- Build valuable leadership, communication, and project collaboration skills.
- Make a lasting difference by helping your peers embrace new ways of working.

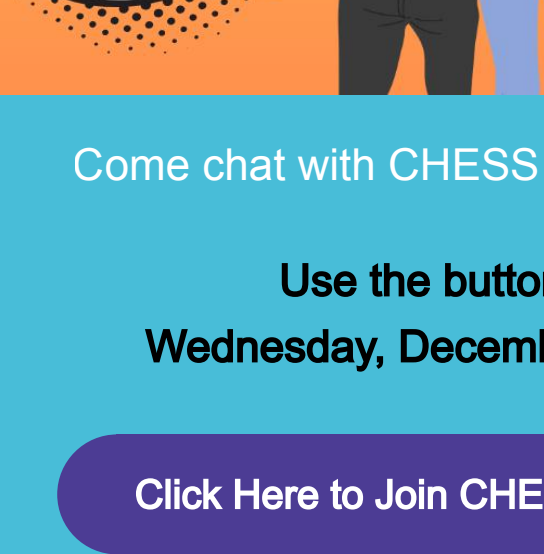
Your involvement matters.

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

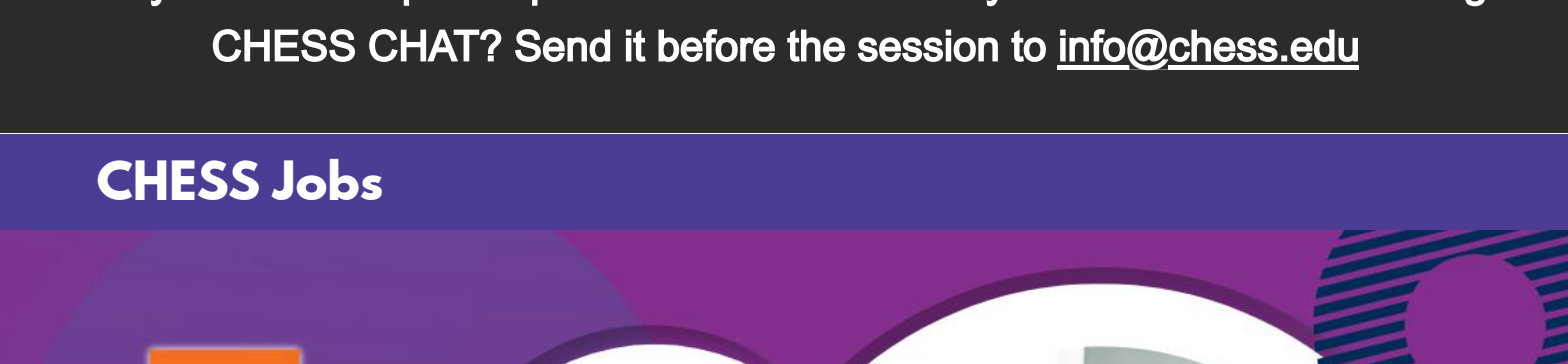
Did You Solve the Workday Student Word Scramble from the October 2025 (Issue 1) CHESS Connection?



Here are the answers:

1. Schedule (ELCSDHUE)
2. Enrollment (MNELOLRNET)
3. Registration (NIOREGTRSTAI)
4. Academic Plan (CAMDECAI PNLA)
5. Student Hub (TUDNEST BHU)
6. Course Section Definition (ROCSUE TESONIC FOINTINDEI)
7. Cohort (ORTCHO)
8. Academic Unit (ECAMADIC NUIT)

Join Us for CHESS CHAT with Shaun McAlmont, CHESS CEO



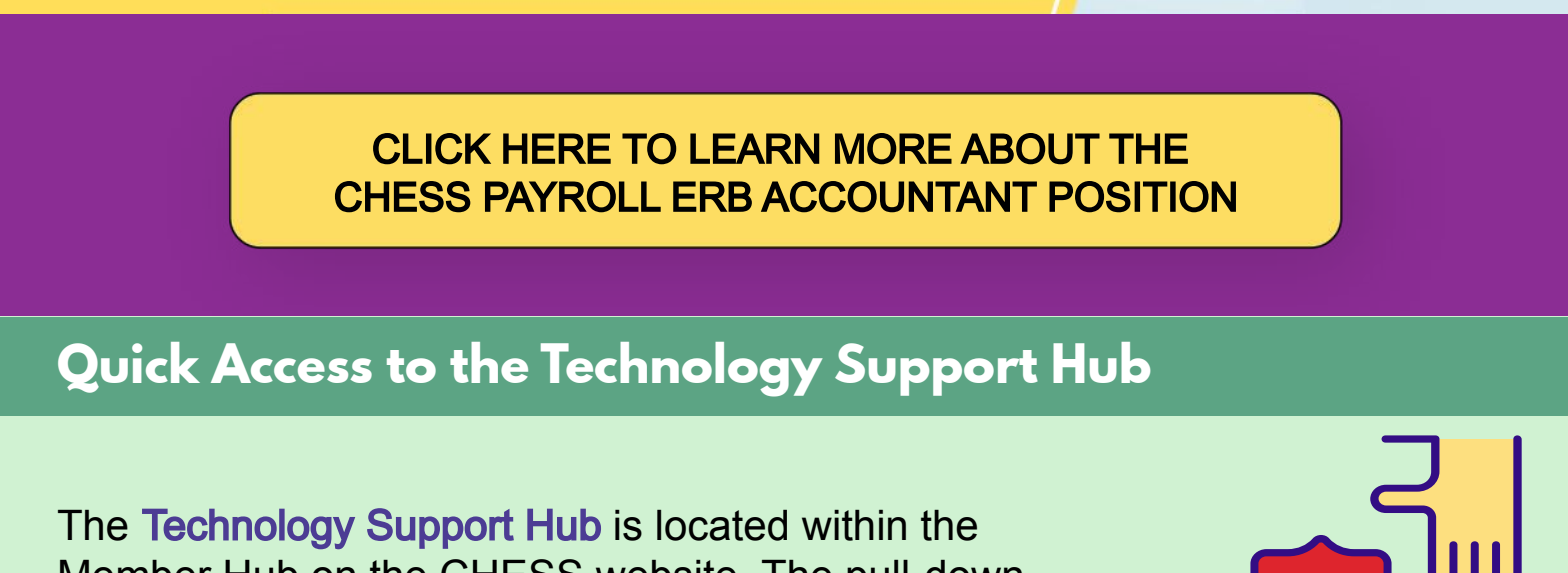
Come chat with CHESS and get the scoop, straight from the source.

Use the button below to join the live session on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 12 Noon (Mountain Time)

Click Here to Join CHESS CHAT on Wednesday, December 3, 2025

Do you have a topic or question for CHESS that you'd like to discuss during CHESS CHAT? Send it before the session to info@chess.edu

CHESS Jobs



Now Hiring

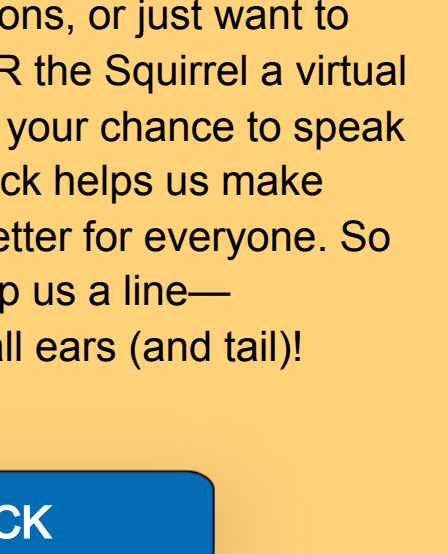
Join our team and make a difference—now hiring!

CHESS Payroll ERB Accountant

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CHESS PAYROLL ERB ACCOUNTANT POSITION

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!



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 CHESSTER 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—CHESSTER'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:

Karen Grandinetti
CHESS Communications
karen.grandinetti@chess.edu

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.