TCNJ IS SOARING TO THE CLOUD

Cloud Project Newsletter May 2019



In recent months the College announced that it had launched the Oracle Cloud Project, a software implementation which will replace existing Financial and Human Resource systems with enhanced modern cloud technology.

We are pleased to report that the Project Team has successfully completed the third cycle of pilot testing and continues to work on fine tuning business process maps and system configurations.

We have also engaged a Project Advisory Group made up of members from the campus community that will assist with user acceptance testing, participate in training and provide feedback about the new financial systems.

During the month of April, Associate Treasurer, Dana Van Nostrand and members of the Chart of Accounts Redesign team presented the College with an in-depth Chart of Accounts Town Hall. This meeting was the first in a series of road shows that the Redesign Team will be hosting for campus groups impacted by the evolving Chart of Accounts structure. The town hall provided useful information about the improved Chart of Accounts and how it will be utilized to enhance the College's capacity for financial management and reporting across all levels of the organization. In addition, the Team discussed how the redesigned Chart of Accounts optimizes the structure and functionality delivered in the new Oracle Cloud financial systems.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 13th @ 10:30 am -ERP Advisory Group Meeting

June 3rd @ 10am -GL/Budgetary Control Demo

June 4th @ 2pm Procurement Demo

June 5th @ 12 noon -Transmittal System Demo

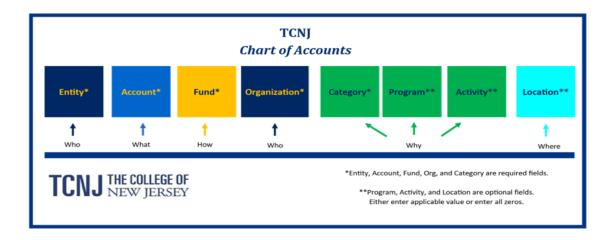
June 6th @ 11am -Grants Demo

May Spotlight: Chart of Accounts

When we move to Oracle Cloud, the chart of accounts (CoA, currently known as chartfields in PeopleSoft) will change dramatically. Currently, there are six chartfield segments (account, fund, department, class, program and project) that are used in different combinations depending on the fund that is being used. The Oracle Cloud CoA will have nine segments (entity, account, fund, organization, category, program, activity, location, and future) and all segments will need to be populated with a value. The College redesigned its CoA for Oracle Cloud for multiple reasons, including:

- To expand the amount of information about a transaction captured within the system;
- To improve the consistency of the information captured by each segment;
- To enhance the College's ability to report on budgets and actuals at the aggregate and detail levels across CoA segments; and
- To provide flexibility for future growth and needs.

You may notice that project (currently used for grants and capital projects) is not a segment in the new CoA. Projects and grants will be maintained in a separate module in Oracle Cloud called Project Portfolio Management (PPM) which uses a different string of values (called POET): project, organization, expenditure type (similar to account), and task. The POET values capture information about expenditures that are only needed for projects and grants without having to add additional segments to the CoA. The POET values are linked to CoA values so project and grant expenditures can be included in reports at the aggregate level, such as a report of all budgets and expenses for a school or academic department.



If you are interested in attending future Chart of Account information sessions or if you would like to set up a meeting for your specific department please complete this **CoA Department Discussion – Interest Survey.**

For more information on the Oracle Cloud Project or to become a member of the Advisory Group please visit the <u>Oracle Cloud Project Website</u>.