COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Penn | **N·G·S·S** Next Generation Student Systems

MARCH 2021 - Table of Contents

Note from the Program Manager

Dear Penn Colleagues:

On March 5th, the project hosted the Spring 2021 Information Session, which focused on the Release 1 scope of the project (for more details on Release 1 scope, refer to page 4). Thank you to all those who joined and helped promote the event to your colleagues. We had over 250 attendees and received helpful feedback on how we can better engage with the community for our Fall 2021 Information Sessions.

Other Release 1 milestones include starting Student Records User Acceptance Testing (UAT) in April. During UAT, Penn resources will validate the integrations of the Release 1 systems. Moreover, the team is working to solidify the cutover and go-live details necessary to transition from the current systems to the Release 1 Pennant suite of systems in Fall 2021. To best support the community in this transition, we are developing training and other user support materials.

In addition to the Release 1 efforts, the team continues the design and build for Release 2 Student Records and Financial Aid. We know many of you are excited to learn more about Release 2, and we are looking forward to sharing more about the Release 2 components in the coming months.

As a reminder, the program continues with its Current Systems Freeze period, which limits non-regulatory changes to various current systems. For more information on the Current Systems Freeze period, see page 5.

Best,

Rosey Nissley
NGSS Program Manager

Spring 2021 Information Session

On March 5th, 2021, the NGSS project hosted the Spring 2021 Information Session, which focused on Release 1 scope (for more details on Release 1 scope, refer to page 4). The session aimed to provide Penn staff, who are not closely engaged with the project, an understanding of the project's overall goals, timeline, and Release 1 systems.

If you would like to view the session, you can access the recording and slides.

Content

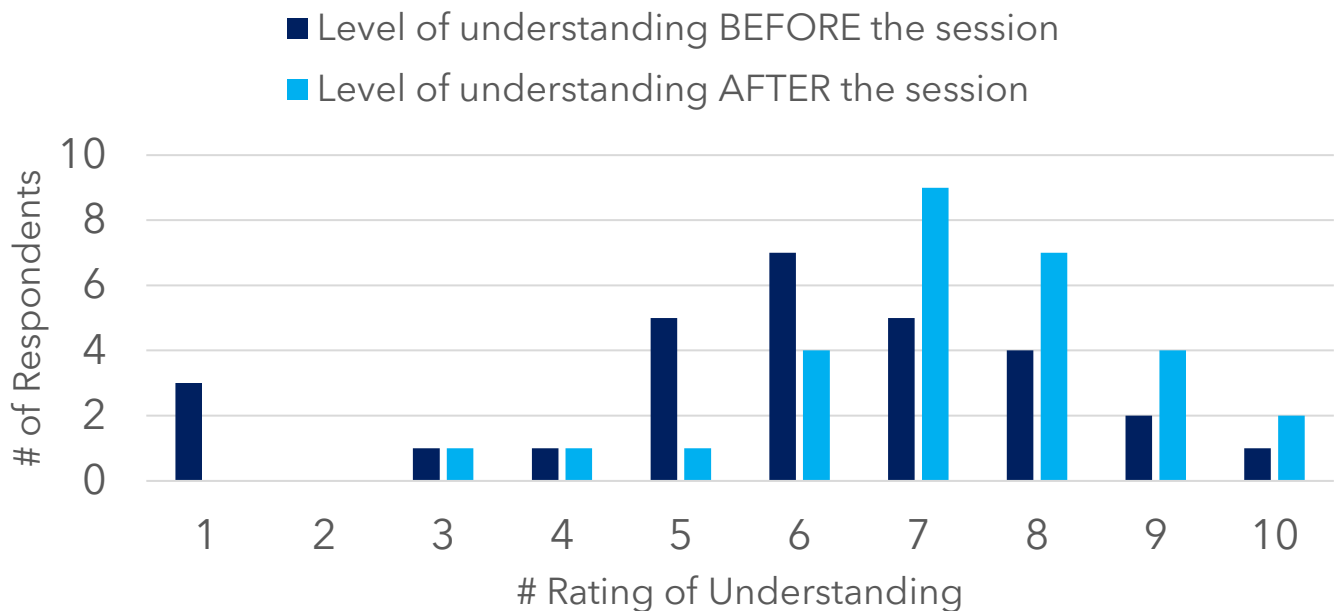| Case for Change	High-level project timeline	**Application Footprint:** How are the systems related to each other?
Student Records: Curriculum Manager (CM) Retrofit, CourseLeaf Section Scheduler (CLSS), and Student Records	**Financial Aid:** High-level scope	**End-User Resources:** Hypercare & Training

Spring 2021 Information Session Assessment

How did we do?

To assess the effectiveness of the session, participants were asked to fill out a feedback survey. Based on the data*, the session was successful in enhancing the audience's level of understanding of NGSS. The data and feedback collected will better inform how the team organizes and executes the Fall 2021 Information Sessions.

■ Level of understanding BEFORE the session
■ Level of understanding AFTER the session

X-axis: # Rating of Understanding; Y-axis: # of Respondents

* Based on 29 survey responses

What's Next?

FUTURE ISSUES
Monthly

In future Community Newsletters, the NGSS team will continue to update the community on Release 1 progress and begin to provide Release 2 information. For more information on Release 2 scope, visit the NGSS website.

RELEASE 1 STUDENT RECORDS USER ACCEPTANCE TESTING (UAT)
April 2021

Selected participants will assist in validating course conversions to Banner and in testing form functions and integrations in CourseLeaf Section Scheduler (CLSS) and Curriculum Manager (CM).

Participants will test the full lifecycle of a course from proposal in CM through section maintenance in CLSS.

RELEASE 1 STUDENT RECORDS DRIP TRAINING
Spring 2021

DRIP is a training material roll-out strategy which gradually cascades information to end-users in preparation for formal training sessions.

DRIP will begin the second week of April and continue throughout the Spring to prepare users for training sessions in the Summer. DRIP content will include overviews about Curriculum Manager (CM), CourseLeaf Section Scheduler (CLSS), and other Release 1 functionality.

TRAINING SESSIONS
Summer & Fall 2021

Release 1 Student Records training for users will take place in Summer 2021, focusing on CM Retrofit and CLSS:

- CM – Learn what functionality has been added, modified, and removed
- CLSS – Learn the section maintenance process, including creating and maintaining sections

Release 1 Pennant Aid training for end-users will take place in Fall 2021, focusing on Banner, enhanced ImageNow functionality, Pennant Reports, and more.

NGSS Systems – Release 1 Scope

What is Pennant?

The Next Generation Student Systems (NGSS) program is deploying Penn's new student information system, referred to as the Pennant suite of applications. Pennant Accounts (student accounts and billing) has been live since 2015. Additional components of this suite include Pennant Records (student records and registration) and Pennant Aid (student financial aid), which will go-live in Fall 2021 (Release 1) and Spring 2022 (Release 2).

The NGSS program continues to design, build, and configure future-state systems supporting our student records and financial aid processes. The systems included in NGSS Release 1 will start to be used in Fall 2021 based on when academic or business processes launch (e.g. course and section maintenance, financial aid packaging).

Pennant Records – Release 1

Function	Current State	Future State
Curriculum (Course & Program) Management	• Curriculum Manager (CM) with 3-digit course numbers	• Curriculum Manager (CM) with 4-digit course numbers
Section Maintenance	• SRS Screens: 129-132	• CourseLeaf Section Scheduler (CLSS) • Ellucian Banner
Final Exam Room Requests	• Courses InTouch (CIT) Final Exam Application	• CourseLeaf Section Scheduler (CLSS)
Classroom Scheduling	• SRS Screens: 130, 1C6	• Infosilem Course Scheduling Software • Infosilem Enterprise Scheduling Software
Event Space Scheduling	• SRS Screens: 1C6, 1C7, 1C8	• Infosilem Event Scheduling

Pennant Aid – Release 1

Function	Current State	Future State
Financial Aid (FA) Processing – Non-Matriculated Applicants* Only *New Applicants	• Student Aid Management (SAM)	• Ellucian Banner
FA Needs Analysis	• Needs Analyzer	• Ellucian Banner
Imaging	• ImageNow	• ImageNow with enhancements
Data Warehouse	• FA Data Warehouse	• Operational Data Store (ODS) • Data Warehouse with enhancements
Undergraduate FA Document Status and Award Notification	• Slate	• Slate with enhancements

⚠️ Current Systems Freeze Period

As a reminder, the program continues with its Current Systems Freeze period, which limits non-regulatory changes to various current systems.

Upcoming Deadlines:

MAY 28
University Catalog
2021-2022 Live

New course proposals, deactivations, substantive changes, etc. with an effective term of 22A or prior must be to OUR step in Curriculum Manager by May 28, 2021.

For information on the Current Systems Freeze Period, please visit the NGSS website.

For questions or concerns related to the Current Systems Freeze period, email NGSS_FREEZE_CR@LISTS.UPENN.EDU.