

# NeSISeNews

What's New and Upcoming From the NeSIS Team

December 2023



## Director's Corner

### Looking Back - Looking Forward

I'm not sure how it is already time for graduation next week. Time flies though I am trying not to think about what that says about my age! As we approach the end of another calendar year and fall term, it's natural to think about accomplishments and goals. So many great things were completed in 2023 – an alphabet soup of PUMs, PRPs, RFCs, NDEIDs, and PTools implementations, saying goodbye and hello to people on the NeSIS staff as well as campus partners, database upgrades, and lots of planning for disaster recovery, privileged access management, and coming upgrades.

In August we held a NeSIS retreat and worked to update our NeSIS Strategic Plan. An outcome from those efforts that is serving us well is a continuous practice of a retrospective discussion. We've been intentionally having these conversations after project completions and issue resolutions as well as

continued on next page

## What's Inside

[Looking Back - Looking Forward](#)

[Strategic Plan Intake Form Available](#)

[New NeSIS Initiatives](#)

[Upcoming Dates](#)

[NeSIS Numbers](#)

problem area identification brainstorming sessions to tackle tough situations and how to creatively address them. The practice helps us gather good input on issues and gives us all a voice in the solutions we implement. Ideas and goals we'll be advancing this coming year are communication and relationship building with campus partners, a standing PeopleTools team for feature rollouts, and a data/reporting strategy for APIs. More information about these initiatives can be found in this newsletter. We're excited to add value to our communities and make improvements in areas we'd like to excel.



Wyatt Rosebrock  
October 2023 NeSIS Award Winner



Suzan Manthey  
November 2023 NeSIS Award Winner

We brought back a monthly employee award and renamed it the NeSIS Award which stands for "NeSIS Employee Shining Impactful Superstar" as a way to celebrate our staff contributions. Please help us recognize Wyatt Rosebrock on the STAMP team for October 2023 selection. Wyatt is a great contributor combining security and development to solve problems and is always stepping up to help – thanks Wyatt! For November 2023, our award winner was Suzan Manthey for her 30 years of service to NU – what an accomplishment! Thanks Suzan, for your service and being an amazing teammate!

Thanks to all of you for being great partners over the years. We value your feedback, collaborative nature, and the heart you have for all you do! Happy holidays!

**Andrea Childress**  
UNK CIO  
Interim NeSIS Director



## Strategic Plan Intake Form Available

The last issue of NeSIS eNews contained links to some documents the NeSIS team is using to develop a strategic plan to guide prioritization and utilization of resources. To submit any campus items that need to be included in this process, [click here](#) and complete the form. If you have any questions or comments about the process, please contact [nesisteamleads@nebraska.edu](mailto:nesisteamleads@nebraska.edu).

# New NeSIS Initiatives

The NeSIS Team has been discussing three new initiatives that will begin in 2024.

## Dynamic Duos:

Over the years, the NeSIS team has developed relationships with the campuses through campus visits and attending campus NeSIS meetings. This has helped us get an idea of what is going on and what challenges each campus could be facing. COVID and other factors have impacted these interactions in the past few years. In an effort to rebuild these connections between NeSIS and campus staff, pairings of NeSIS functional and technical staff would be created to meet informally with campus functional areas. These interactions would be informal meetings either in person or via Zoom and would help identify pain points, answer general questions and see if there are any new projects coming up. Having multiple perspectives in the conversation could identify issues or provide solutions and help build relationships between groups. If you are interesting in setting up a “Dynamic Duo” session, please contact [nesisteamleads@nebraska.edu](mailto:nesisteamleads@nebraska.edu).

## PeopleTools Upgrade/Enhancement Implementation Strategy

As you know, the PeopleTools upgrades that we apply every other year or so include fixes to existing issues and security updates, but they also include new features or changes to existing features. These new features sometimes take a lot of time to evaluate to determine their impact, and then possibly development time to ensure that they work with our system. There can also be a significant amount of time required to test these new features, update documentation and communicate the changes to users. In the past, this has sometimes required a lot of time to make features work, or it's meant that some features may not have ever been implemented due to these time constraints or for other reasons.

Going forward, the NeSIS Team will form a PT evaluation team to evaluate the features in each PeopleTools upgrade and determine which ones we have to include with the upgrade and only those will be included. Other new features will be evaluated and prioritized and included with PUM updates throughout the year. This should help reduce the development and testing load of each PeopleTools upgrade and will give us time to get a better understanding of these features and the impact they may have. The features that will be included in each PT upgrade and PUM update will be communicated so they can be thoroughly tested and the campuses should have time to update any documentation and communications necessary.

## NeSIS Database APIs

NeSIS is working on extending options for campuses to retrieve data. One of those options being explored are Standard APIs that could be utilized by all campuses. Another option is Self Service Query APIs that could facilitate limited integrations without requiring the existing traditional CR process. We're also looking into API solutions for larger, high volume data requests. The draft graphic on the next page has more information on the options identified so far. These ideas are still in initial stages, so more information will be given as it is available.

continued on next

## (Draft) – NeSIS Database APIs

### Self-Service PSQuery APIs

No Coding Required

Based on PSQuery

Utilize 'Query Tree'  
Security

NeSIS Built  
'Guardrails'  
for data protection.

Will allow Web  
Developers to  
collaborate with  
Campus Data  
Stewards to quickly  
build Integrations.

### "Heavy Lift " Direct APIs

SQL Based Views that  
are exposed via API

Intended for high-  
volume Interfaces.

Database Level  
Optimization where  
needed.

Utilizing existing  
Database \_SRC  
Schema Security.

### PeopleSoft 'Traditional' IB API

Typical process of  
creating APIs thru the  
NeSIS Mod Process

Secured thru  
PeopleSoft /  
Integration Broker

Can be created by a  
Campus or NeSIS  
Developer.

Requires CR / Follows  
NeSIS Change  
Control procedure

### NeSIS "Standard API's"

Intended to be used/reused by all Campus Customers  
Developed and Published by the NeSIS Team  
Typically, Lower-Risk Data (Flags, Schedule etc)

#### Current:

- NeSIS Course Catalog API
- NeSIS Class Search API
- NeSIS Schedule API
- NeSIS Message Center API

#### Future:

Records (Stellic)  
BioDem (PersData)

If you have questions or feedback about any of these initiatives,  
please contact [nesisteamleads@nebraska.edu](mailto:nesisteamleads@nebraska.edu)

# Upcoming Dates

**12/12 @9am CST**

SC Financial Aid Team Meeting

**12/12 @10:30am CST**

SC Student Financials Team Meeting

**12/12 @10:30am CST**

Student Records Team Meeting

**12/12 @1:30pm CST**

Integration Team Meeting

**12/13 @10:30am CST**

NU Student Financials Team Meeting

**12/14 @9am CST**

Dashboard Team Meeting

**12/15 @9am CST**

Enterprise Tools Team Meeting

**12/19 @9am CST**

Financial Aid Team Meeting

**12/19 After 5pm CST**

QANU/SC Refresh

**12/20 @9am CST**

Admissions Team Meeting

**12/22/23 - 1/1/24**

Holiday Shutdown - NeSIS Office Closed

**1/2/24 @1:30pm CST**

QANU/SC Refresh

**1/3/24 @10:30am CST**

Student Financials Team Meeting

**1/9/24 @1:30pm CST**

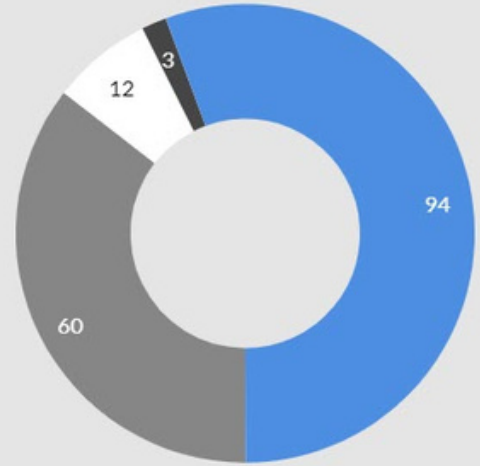
TSTNU/SC Refresh



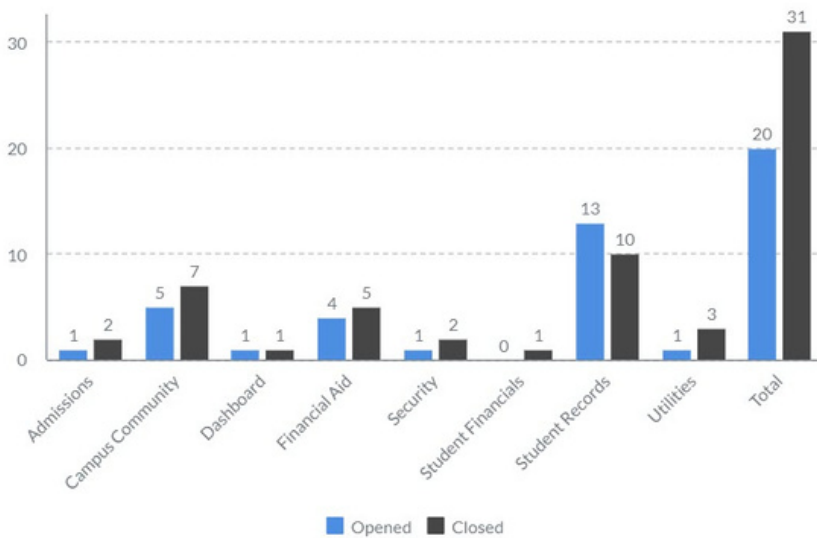
From the NeSIS Team

# NeSIS Numbers

## Change Request Status December 2023



■ Not Started (55.62%) 
 ■ Campus Development (35.5%) 
 ■ In Testing (7.1%) 
 ■ In Development (1.78%)



## Change Requests Opened and Closed in November 2023

## Issues Opened and Closed in November 2023

