

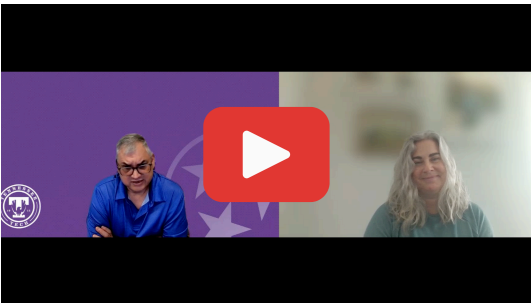


A monthly newsletter tracking Tennessee Tech's progress toward implementation of its new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system

JULY 2025

Throughout the month of July, the Talon team conducted Knowledge Transfer meetings, which allowed participants to share their training experiences, feedback, and goals with the project. The Talon team is working with those results to create support and mitigation plans, as well as to identify areas of strengths and successes before implementing campus-wide training.

Talon Talks



In the July 2025 edition of "Talon Talks," Terri McWilliams, Director of Budget and the Functional Lead for the Budget Module, discusses her role in the implementation of Talon and what she is most looking forward to as the project moves forward. [Watch here](#) or by clicking the image at left.

What's Ahead in August

As we approach the fall, our Talon training program will kick-off to prepare our campus end users for go-live in January 2026. There are three distinct phases of the Talon training program: Business Partner Training (BPT), Business Partner+ Training (BPT+), and End User Training.



Each of these phases has a distinct audience and purpose that will be rolled out at various times later this year.

Business Partner Training (BPT)

- **Audience:** Talon Business Partners
- **Date:** Mid-September to Mid-October

The Talon Business Partners have been actively involved in the project to this point, participating in monthly meetings and providing feedback on system demonstrations. BPT will be an opportunity for these individuals to get early training, test the effectiveness and usability of training materials, and provide feedback to improve training ahead of End User Training.

Business Partner+ Training (BPT+)

- **Audience:** targeted individuals identified by the Talon project team
- **Date:** Mid-October

BPT+ is an opportunity for a broader range of targeted individuals to receive early training ahead of End User Training. This will primarily be focused on training courses to teach Talon content and ensure understanding.

End User Training

- **Audience:** Tennessee Tech campus community
- **Date:** Mid-November and continues through January

End User Training will provide the Tennessee Tech faculty and staff with training opportunities to learn the new Talon system. This will include instructor-led training courses, as well as self-paced, on-demand training. These training opportunities will begin before go-live and continue after the system is fully implemented.

Talon Testimonial

Hello!

My name is Terri McWilliams, and I serve as the Director of Budget at TTU. I've been a part of the university community for nearly nine years, working in a variety of roles across campus. I understand firsthand the challenges and limitations we currently face with Banner, and I am genuinely excited about our transition to Oracle. I believe this change will be a transformative resource for our entire campus.

In the Talon implementation, I am proudly wearing several functional lead hats. I am responsible for:

- Position Control in the HCM Module
- Labor Distribution in the PPM Module
- And the EPM Budget and Planning Module, which we are just beginning to explore.

I'm especially excited to see the capabilities the EPM Budget module will offer. Our collective goal is to implement a system that minimizes bottlenecks, reduces duplication of manual processes, and ultimately streamlines operations for our end users.

This is a large-scale undertaking involving IT, HR, and the Business Office — and we are eager to collaborate with you throughout this journey. I truly believe that if we stay committed to doing our best, remain patient with one another as we learn, and stay open to change, we will emerge as a stronger and more efficient university.

Once fully implemented, our campus community will have access to more data and insights than ever before. And on days when the project feels overwhelming, I remind myself of a quote from Warren Buffett: "In a chronically leaking boat, energy devoted to changing vessels is more productive than energy devoted to patching leaks."

Here's to building something better — together!



**Tennessee
TECH**



DIRECTOR OF BUDGET

Don't Forget

See the July edition of [Talon Talks](#) featuring Terri McWilliams, Director of Budget and the Functional Lead for the Budget Module and visit the Talon project website at www.tntech.edu/talon/ that contains project information, news, and resources.

Please reach out to the Talon team members anytime with questions or feedback at erptalon@tntech.edu. You can also stay apprised of our implementation timeline [here](#) and find a list of frequently asked questions [here](#).

Given the high level of resource requirements and the strategic importance of this project, we remind our campus customers that while we will strive to maintain and provide support and assistance to ongoing campus operations, there may be some delays as a result of project-related activities. We appreciate your continued patience and understanding.



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