



This is the first newsletter of the New Year and we are mired in a government shutdown. So check out the first action item...

“Google’ is not a synonym for ‘research.’” - Dan Brown, *The Lost Symbol*

Action items:

- The federal government is closed and we are receiving little/no guidance on strategies for coping with the shutdown. The NERA office has attempted to contact various NIFA personnel to seek guidance; we have received no feedback. What we do know:
 - Quarter one payments of NIFA funds have not been made.
 - The FY '19 final capacity allocation is not known.
 - No guidance has been provided to institutions.
 - The shutdown seems to have no immediate end.

I understand that many institutions are operating as if the government is not shut down, when the government opens NIFA, will be made whole as will the institutions that receive NIFA funding. We are seeking from you, descriptions of the impact of the shutdown. What impacts currently concern you? What impacts/crises arise if the shutdown was to continue through the end of March? ...through the end of June (and the roll-over of state fiscal year.) [Would you please forward those reflections to Rick](#). We'll develop an inventory as well as potential action steps.

- We are seeking new AES photos for the NERA website. [Please forward those to Dave](#).

Reminders/Updates:

- *Last call:* During the December 6, 2018 NERA teleconference we discussed nominations for the three 2019 ESS awards: [ESS Leadership](#) (2018 NE winner: Ian Maw; nominations due to NERA by February 1, 2019), [Excellence in Multistate Research](#) (2018 NE nominee: NE1335, Resource Management in Commercial Greenhouse Production; nomination due to NERA by February 28, 2019) and [National Experiment Station Section Diversity and Inclusion Award](#) (2018 National winner: MAP@Purdue Team; nominations due to the Diversity Catalyst Executive Vice Chair, Rick Rhodes by March 30, 2019.) If you're an AA for a high-performing multistate research project, nominate them. If you know of an individual that has contribute to the NE's ESS leadership, nominate them. If you know of a person or organization that has contributed conspicuously to organizational diversity and inclusion, nominate them.
- NRSP10, [National Database Resources for Crop Genomics, Genetics and Breeding Research](#) seeks a NERA AA. [If you'd like to take this on, please share that with Dave or Rick](#).

Informational items:

- The Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources, National Academies of Science, is **seeking**

proposals from institutions to co-host lectures as part of the 75th Anniversary Lecture Series. The lectures are intended to *engage with the public to explore an agricultural or natural resource issue with which scientists are grappling, highlighting the way in which research, technology, and policy inform that debate and the interplay of scientific knowledge with public and private decision-making.* [Directions for submitting proposals is on the NERA website.](#)

- Colorado State University (CSU) invites applications and encourages nominations for **Professor and Department Head** of Animal Sciences in the College of Agricultural Sciences. To apply see: jobs.colostate.edu/postings/62697.
- The University of Connecticut Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics seeks applications for the position of **Department Head** and appointment as **Associate Professor** or **Professor**. Job applicants are directed to: <https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/13082>.
- The University of Rhode Island's Cooperative Extension team is seeking a **4-H Educator**. Applicants are directed to <https://jobs.uri.edu/postings/4600>.
- The Auburn University Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology seeks applicants for an **ALFA Endowed Eminent Scholar** position as a **Full** or **Associate Professor**. Visit <http://www.nerasaes.org/employment> to view the job description.



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NERA and its member institutions are committed to the principles of affirmative action, diversity, and inclusion.

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