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NERA will be meeting virtually next week (see the first action item). Both David and I are looking forward to seeing you on the Zoom teleconference!

I was struck by the power of the quote below from Desmond Tutu and the applicability that his comment has on research. While we live in uncertain times, it's worth our effort to reflect on the scientific, intellectual and leadership capacities that we bring to bear to make a difference. No dark fate determines our future...

“Every day we have the opportunity to create and re-create our lives. This is the power we yield. No dark fate determines our future.” – Desmond Tutu in *The Book of Joy* (The Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu with Douglas Abrams, 2016), Penguin/Random House, New York, NY.

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### Action items:

- The agenda and supporting materials for the **NERA business meeting** on **September 28** from **12:00-2:30 PM ET** are [posted on the NERA website](#). We'll also email to you the connection details, agenda and supporting materials.
- The results of the poll seeking approval of the MAC's recommendation to dedicate \$40,788 in off-the-top Multistate Research Funding to support the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development are in: 12 stations-approve, 0 stations-reject, 3 stations-no vote cast.

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### Reminders/Updates:

- As you know the [2021 Experiment Station Section Meeting](#) is slated to be held as a hybrid endeavor (both face-to-face and virtual) on September 27-30, 2021. The cost of virtual registration is \$300. Here's the link to [register for the virtual meeting](#).
- *Second time around, last minute.* The National Science Foundation (NSF) has announced that it will offer an **NSF Proposal and Award Policy Update Webinar** to the research community tomorrow on **Tuesday, September 21, 2021** from **2:00 – 3:00pm EDT**. [Registration](#) is required, however, there is no cost to participate.
- *Last time with this continuing ask:* We are again seeking new pictures from your station to be shown on our scrolling banner on the NERA website. Please send those to [Dave](#).

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### Informational items:

- Dana Price (Rutgers) is seeking a [postdoctoral associate](#) specializing in the evolutionary and molecular biology of ixodid ticks to carry out USDA-NIFA funded research.
- The First Americans Land-Grant Consortium (FALCON) is pleased to announce that registration is now open for its 17th Annual Conference, scheduled for October 21-22, 2021. This will be an ALL-VIRTUAL event. To register for the conference, click [here](#).
- North Dakota State University is seeking an [Associate Director](#) for the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.



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

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