

# Report and Recommendations

## NORTHEAST MULTISTATE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, February 07, 2023, 9:00-9:30 AM ET

In attendance: Matt Wilson (WVU), Puneet Srivastava (UMD), Jason White (CT-New Haven), Cindy Fitch (WVU/NEED), Ali Mitchell (NEED), Blair Siegfried (Penn State) [Non-voting, ex officio: Rick Rhodes (NERA), David Leibovitz (NERA)]

### MAC Discussion Items

- NE nomination for the 2023 Experiment Station Section Award for Excellence in Multistate Research
  - The Northeast has not won this award since 2010. All Northeast Administrative Advisers are encouraged to submit a nomination and carefully adhere to the instructions in the [Call for Nominations](#).
- Identification of a new MAC member and new MAC Chair to replace Jan Nyrop (former Director, Cornell AgriTech-retired)
  - **Matt Wilson (WVU) was nominated to serve as MAC Chair. The group unanimously supported this nomination and Matt was elected as Chair.**
  - **Blair Siegfried (Penn State) has agreed to join the MAC.**

### Initial MAC Discussion of New/Renewing 2023 Multistate Proposals (MAC “ready check” of full proposals prior to peer review – not a formal approval step)

- NE9: *Conservation and Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources*, 10/1/23-9/30/28. Submitted by Zachary Stansell – ARS-Geneva, Ben Gutierrez – ARS-Geneva, Gan-Yuan Zhong – ARS-Geneva. AA: Olga Padilla-Zakour – Cornell AgriTech.
  - NE9 supports the Northeast regional Germplasm center and is funded annually by an off-the-top commitment which requires approval by NERA.
  - The team is requesting a flat budget for this 5-year cycle. NERA held this group to a flat budget over the course of its last cycle.
- NE\_TEMP2334: *Genetic Bases for Resistance and Immunity to Avian Diseases*, 10/1/23-9/30/28. Submitted by Bob Taylor – West Virginia University. Bob Taylor serves as AA.
- NE\_TEMP2335: *Resource Optimization in Controlled Environment Agriculture*, 10/1/23-9/30/28. Submitted by Qingwu (William) Meng – Delaware, Shuyang Zhen – Texas A&M. Proposed AA: Puneet Srivastava (Maryland)
- **This slate of three proposals was approved by the MAC to move forward into peer review. NERA OED will facilitate the peer review process.**

### Northeast Administrative Adviser assignments to be addressed (MAC recommendations to NERA)

- The MAC will bring forth the recommendations below for approval during the NERA March business meeting:
- Mark Hutton (Maine, former Assoc Director)

- NE1943: *Biology, Ecology & Management of Emerging Disease Vectors* (**Jessica Leahy – Maine**)
- NE1944: *Management of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug* – renewing 2022-23
- NE2101: *Eastern White Pine Health and Responses to Environmental Changes* (**Jessica Leahy – Maine**)
- Adel Shirmohammadi (Maryland, former Assoc Director)
  - NE1835: *Resource Optimization in Controlled Environment Agriculture* – renewing 2022-23 (**Puneet Srivastava – Maryland**)
  - NE2045: *Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems: Assessing the Impact of Soil Variability and Climate Change* (**Lisa Townson – Rhode Island**)
- Eric Wommack (Delaware, former Assoc Director)
  - NECC1901: *Integrating Genomics and Breeding for Improved Shellfish Aquaculture Production of Molluscan Shellfish*
  - NE2202: *The Equine Microbiome*
- Jan Nyrop (Cornell AgriTech, retired)
  - NE1832: *Biological Control of Arthropod Pests and Weeds* – renewing 2022-23
  - NE1839: *Development and Evaluation of Broccoli Adapted to the Eastern US* – renewing 2022-23
  - NE2001: *Harnessing Chemical Ecology to Address Agricultural Pest and Pollinator Priorities* (**Blair Siegfried – Penn State**)