



Many thanks to you for ringing in on critical issues. You'll see in the first bullet that as a result of your input, the Annual ESS/ARD Meeting will be held virtually and not face-to-face in Baltimore.

As we head into mid-summer, I hope that you all will have time to step away from the computer, the Zoom meetings, and decompress. While masking, socially distancing and avoiding crowds is now a way of life, there's still plenty of things to do. Take advantage of those.

“Sometimes a key arrives before a lock. Now, I am thinking sometimes the password arrives before the impasse. These words, when spoken or written down, might grant us entry in a previously unimaginable awareness – that the coast, and all the living beings on it, are changing radically.” - Elizabeth Rush, 2018. *Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore*. Milkweed Press, Minneapolis, MN.

Action items:

- Mark your calendars: The Annual ESS/ARD Meeting originally scheduled to be face-to-face in Baltimore will instead be held virtually. The Planning Committee intends to engage directors on the original dates, September 28-30, and is looking at hosting the meeting in 2-hour slots in the evening (6-8 PM EDT) to enable all directors, from the East Coast to the Western territories, to join.
- We are still seeking [administrative advisers](#) for a number of NE multistate projects. As we've shared in the past, there is no requirement to be a disciplinary expert.
- NEED and NERA are co-hosting a [listening session](#) tomorrow on July 14 at 10:00 AM EDT for the [Agriculture Innovation Agenda](#). We encourage you, your designee or your station scientists to join us. To join, click this [Zoom meeting link](#). Meeting ID is 919 0454 6170 and the password is 095480.

Reminders/Updates:

- We're interested to hear how you and your institution is responding to the U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) guidance on [modifications to temporary exemptions for nonimmigrant students](#). As the [Chronicle for Higher Education](#) noted on July 6, ICE has announced that international students whose colleges are offering courses exclusively online as a consequence of the pandemic will not be issued student visas or otherwise be allowed to enter or remain in the United States. The Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Rhode Island has shared some strategies for addressing this including using hybrid courses, assigning meeting times and rooms for graduate research and special

problems, and using existing seminar courses to create 1-credit classes that could be taught face-to-face.

How are you dealing with the issue? Please share strategies with [Rick](#). As a post script to this, legal action was jointly filed today by attorneys general for Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin, plus the District of Columbia (9 of which are in the Northeast.)

- Mike Hoffman, former AES director from Cornell, will be delivering the eCornell keynote titled [Our Changing Menus: Climate Change and the Foods We Love and Need](#) on Wednesday, July 15 at 1:00PM EDT. Registration is required.
- Now that the 2021 NERA budget has passed, we sent out assessment notices electronically. You might want to give your business offices a heads-up.

Informational items:

- The Northeast Administrative Heads will be meeting again on July 16 at 2:30 PM to continue their discussion. If you'd like to join, please click this [Zoom link](#).
- The University of Maryland is seeking applicants for four new positions at the Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. All of these position descriptions are posted at <https://www.nerasaes.org/employment>.
- Penn State is seeking assistance for the review of their Animal Health and McIntire-Stennis proposals; PSU runs an internal competition. If you're interested in assisting, please give Rick a heads up. During this funding cycle, PSU received internally five Animal Health and thirteen McIntire-Stennis submissions. The review process is pretty simple at this point – review the proposals, make sure that they align with the respective Animal Health or McIntire-Stennis purpose and then rank them 1-5 for Animal Health or 1-13 for McIntire-Stennis with 1 being the proposal most highly recommended for funding. There is no need to provide additional justification or commentary.



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