



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

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For us here in Kingston, RI, Labor Day is the unofficial opening of school and the end of tourist season. It's an exciting time. Labor Day is also a federal holiday that celebrates the social and economic achievements of American workers. And it's a respite as we all begin a new semester, a new season, and new adventure. We hope that you have time to relax and reflect over this long weekend. You deserve it.

"I learned the value of hard work by working hard." – Margaret Mead (1979) in *Margaret Mead: Some Personal Views*. Walker and Company, New York, NY.

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### Action items:

- Registration is open for the agInnovation Fall Meeting Fall Meeting 2023, *Catalyzing Solutions to Climate Change Impacts on Food Security through Partnerships*, in Grand Rapids, MI, September 24-26. Visit the [conference website](#) for all details. As a reminder, registration closes on September 13 and the room block closes tomorrow on September 5.
- On November 1-3, 2023, the APLU's Board on Agricultural Assembly (BAA) will be hosting a National Advocacy Leadership Summit in Washington, DC. The summit will bring together individuals from across the network of public and land-grant universities' colleges of agriculture, life sciences, and natural resources, with a focus on the dynamics of successful federal advocacy strategies, how to be more effective in working with your federal offices, the key elements of advocacy messaging, and how annual appropriations (the Budget and Advocacy Committee, BAC) and Farm Bill priorities (Committee on Legislation and Policy, CLP) are determined. The intended audience is Vice Chancellors, Vice Presidents and Deans of the colleges of agriculture (and life sciences/ natural resources), senior level administrators (associate deans, research directors, Extension directors, 1890s administrators, 1994 TCUs, center directors) and other senior leadership with an interest in knowing more about BAA advocacy structure and priority setting. Due to space constraints, registration will be capped at 100 participants and invitations will be extended based on a nomination. If you'd like to be nominated, please [give Rick a heads up](#). Nominations are due on September 15.

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### Reminders/Updates:

- During the August 10 meeting, the Association approved the budget for FY2024 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024). The [approved budget](#) is posted on the NERA website.
- The MRF Impacts toolkit for September 2023 is posted on the NERA website under [Workroom/National Updates](#). Please share this toolkit and use the materials and sample posts as you see fit.

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### Informational items:

- The University of Delaware are seeking to fill two leadership positions: [Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources](#) and [Associate Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension](#).
- The [Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development](#) (NERCRD) is requesting applications for an [Associate Director](#) position.
- The NSF is hosting a virtual town hall meeting for information on the Major Research Instrumentation program on September 14 and 15 from 2-3:30 PM. [Registration is required](#).
- We've added a photo at the end of the newsletter that either captures "local flavor" or is indicative of current events. If you have a picture that you'd like to share with the NERA News followers, please send those to us with a caption and photographer acknowledgement. (Otherwise, I'll keep posting family pictures...)



"End of the summer: grandkids and grandparents." (Photo by daughter, Emily Durant.)

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Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (NERA)

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

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