



Next week we will be holding the NEED/NERA Virtual Joint Summer Sessions and our quarterly NERA business meeting. More details are provided in the “Action items” section of this newsletter. That said, we look forward to your participation and contributions.

“Always go into meetings or negotiations with a positive attitude. Tell yourself you’re going to make this the best deal for all parties.” - Natalie Massenet in 2016, *in* Marie Claire, 18 Power Quotes from Natalie Massenet, the Ultimate Fashion Businesswoman, February 3, 2016.

Action items:

- Next week we scheduled the [NEED/NERA Virtual Joint Summer Sessions](#). The agenda for each day is posted on the NERA website. Here’s a brief description of each session.
 - **June 21 at 1:00-2:30 PM:** Convene the Northeast NERA directors and Northeast communicators to discuss developing a communications network that provides us with opportunities to speak with a common, regional voice.
 - **June 23, 1:30-2:30 PM:** NERA business meeting. We’ll be discussing the NERA budget, NIFA listening session (next action item), identification of candidates for ESCOP chair, and selection of a NERA officer- at-large, MAC member and APS liaison.
 - **June 23, 3:30-4:30 PM:** NEED and NERA meet jointly to discuss mutually beneficial opportunities in the multistate research portfolio.
 - **June 24, 3:00-4:30 PM:** NEED and NERA meet jointly for updates from NIFA, the Northeast Ecosystem Services Symposium, the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development (see [NERCRD overview](#) and [NERCRD Annual Report](#)) and the Northeast Climate Hub.
- NIFA is holding a listening session from **12:00 PM to 1:30 PM ET on Thursday, June 17, 2021**. The purpose of the listening session is to seek stakeholder input on future priorities for NIFA research, education, and extension programs. Each participant may speak for up to 3 minutes. [Register online](#) in advance to attend this session.

Reminders/Updates:

- Thanks for voting! Wendie Cohick (Rutgers) has been selected as the Experiment Station Representative on the Communications and Marketing Committee. Follow the link to read ESCOP Chair [Moses Kairo’s CMC announcement](#).
- NERA signed on to letters (one to [Congressional leaders](#) and the other to [President Biden](#)) supporting the request for investment in research infrastructure. You’ll recollect that the [President’s budget](#) (see Table S-6, American Jobs Plan, page 46) included a \$40 billion line for “upgrade America’s research

infrastructure.” The effort that APLU is mounting on behalf of the system is now seeking bipartisan, Congressional champions.

- We're on: The ESS will hold its [2021 Experiment Station Section Meeting](#) face-to-face in Olympic Valley, CA on September 27-30, 2021. The theme will be “Disruptive Innovation.”

Informational items:

- The University of Nebraska has formally launched the national search for the next [dean/director of Nebraska Extension](#).
- NIFA is seeking two National Program leaders in the Division of Animal Systems, three in the Division of Plant Systems and one in the Division of Food Safety. Use the following link to view/apply for the National Program Leader (Biological Science Specialist) positions: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/604230200>. [Deb Hamernik](#) is happy to answer any questions on the positions.
- The University of Vermont shares three job openings: an [ARS Research Biologist/Social Scientist](#) (ARS position); an [ARS Grants Administrator](#) (UVM position) and a [Research Project Manager for UVM ARS](#) (UVM position).



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