



From our perspective, the spring meeting in Washington last week was a success. We appreciated the engagement and energy that attending directors extended. We're also curious to hear your feedback, whether or not you attended the spring meeting. Check out the action items. Happy Spring!

"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt."

-Margaret Atwood (1986) in *Bluebeard's Egg and Other Stories*. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston.

Action items:

- The [notes/minutes from the NERA Spring Meeting](#) are posted on the NERA website. Please check those out. We've also posted the presentations of Elizabeth Stulberg ([Appropriations, Farm Bill, and Research Infrastructure: An Insider's View](#), Lewis-Burke Associates), Erica Mirich ([The Northeast Agenda](#), PIVOT Creative and Consulting), and Amanda Shaffer ([Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Respect Plan: A Strategic Approach](#), University of Maryland).
- While we filled many of the open Administrative Advisor slots during the Spring meeting, we still have several unfilled Administrative Advisor positions. These include: NE1832: *Biological Control of Arthropod Pests and Weeds* and NE1944: *Management of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug*. If you're interested, please contact [Rick](#).
- In the aftermath of CARET/AHS, Caron Gala, the director of Governmental Affairs, Agriculture, and International Development (APLU) has shared the request for stakeholder organizations to sign on to the support letter for the APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly's [2023 Farm Bill Request](#). The support letter and form are located [here](#). The deadline for signing on is March 29, 2023. If you're thinking of inviting any of your contacts, now is a good time to do that.
- We'd like to hear from you. [Here's a link](#) to complete a short survey on the NERA Spring Meeting. Whether you attended or not, we'd value hearing from you all.

Reminders/Updates:

- The notes/minutes (as well as the supporting documentation) from the virtual agInnovation (formerly known as the Experiment Station Section) meeting on March 8, 2023, are [posted on the ESCOP website](#). They're worth a read!
- As we shared in the last newsletter, the national materials supporting the congressional requests are posted on the [LAND-GRANT.org](#) website (home of the BAA Committee on Legislation and Policy [aka, The Farm Bill Committee] and the BAA Budget and Advocacy Committee). The items that you might find useful include the [Unified Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Request](#), the [2023 Farm Bill Title VII Policy Recommendations](#), and the [2023 Farm Bill Request for Research Facilities Act](#).
- *Hold the date:* the NEED/NERA Meeting will be held in Annapolis, Maryland, June 5-7, 2023.

Informational items:

- The Consortium for Regenerative, Climate Smart Livestock Production at West Virginia University is seeking a [Postdoctoral Fellow](#) who can contribute to the big data, machine learning, and artificial intelligence capacities of the Consortium.

- The University of Rhode Island is searching for a [Director for the Metcalf Institute](#). The Metcalf Institute is part of the College of the Environment and Life Sciences and is dedicated to public conversations about environmental issues.
- ESCOP's Diversity Catalyst Committee is soliciting nominations for the [National Experiment Station Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion awards](#) (individual and group).



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

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