Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

In the upcoming months, we have a rare opportunity to assist the Experiment Station System through Matt Wilson's leadership and promoting the Northeast. To that end, we're seeking engagement of NERA directors: new members on ESCOP committees, contributing to the Northeast Agenda, and providing input to NERA. We look forward to working together!

"Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much." – ascribed to Helen Keller (1920's) cited by Joseph Lash (1980) in *Helen and Teacher: The Story of Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan Macy*.
Delacorte Press, New York, NY.

Action items:
• We are seeking new members for several ESCOP committees including Science and Technology (replace Jody Jellison) and Budget and Legislative (new slot for NERA as Anton Bekkerman takes on BLC chair duties). New committee members identified during (or shortly after) the NERA Business Meeting in Baltimore included: Wendie Cohick (Rutgers)-NERA Officer-at-Large, Kumar Venkitanarayanan (UCONN)-LEAD21 Board of Directors, Jessica Leahy (UMaine)-ESCOP Science and Technology Committee, Lisa Townson (URI)-Liaison to NEED, and Jane Kolodinsky (UVM)-Liaison to NE Academic Program Section. The list of NERA members on all committees is posted on the NERA website.

• The minutes for the NERA Business Meeting in Baltimore are posted on the NERA website, check them out.

Reminders/Updates:
• For those of you that might not have heard, Sue Duncan, Associate Director of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station passed away unexpectedly late last week. Virginia Tech has shared a memorial article about Sue.

• Matt Wilson is now the chair of the Experiment Station Section (ESS) and ESCOP. This places the region in a unique leadership position. If there are specific initiatives that you would like to see ESS/ESCOP pursue, please let us know.

• NERA signed onto a letter asking Congress to come to an agreement on FY23 funding as soon as possible and to support USDA research programs in the final FY23 bill. Stay tuned on the congressional deliberations.

• *Heads up*: Please expect follow-up from us related to the Northeast Agenda. More to come!

• *Continuing ask*: We are seeking pictures that typify research activities on your campus. We'll run those on the scrolling banner on the NERA website. Please send your photos to David.

Informational items:

• NEED and NERA are holding follow-up listening sessions on the ecosystem services report on the landscape assessment that the two organizations supported. The next session is scheduled for October 19 at 12:30 PM ET. Click here to register.

• West Virginia State University is currently searching for an Associate Dean/Associate Director of its Agricultural and Environment Research Station. WVSU has extended the application deadline to October 31, 2022.

• The **Fall 2022 NSF Virtual Grants Conference** will be broadcast live on Zoom during the week of **November 14 – 17, 2022**. To register for this free event, visit the conference website.

• *Second time*: Deb Hamernik has shared information and insight on new capacity funds reporting requirements associated with reporting on "Performance Site Locations" and "Project Abstract Forms". Bottom line: simple is better. If you have concerns about the reporting requirements, please share those with us.

• The University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources is seeking applicants for a number of Business Manager, Project Leader and Nutrition Educator positions. Those position announcements are linked to on the NERA website.

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