



While it's the week of the 4th of July, we have a couple of easy action items for you.

Action items:

- Earlier today, Rick forwarded a ballot to each of the directors. We're now asking all directors to cast a vote, one vote per station. Please send your completed ballot to Rick (rcr3@uri.edu).
- The Science and Technology Committee of ESCOP is seeking your opinion on whether an NRSP is eligible for the Excellence in Multistate Research Award. The NRSP Guidelines and the Multistate Award criteria are silent on the issue. So, should an NRSP be eligible for the Excellence in Multistate Research Award? [Please send Rick/Dave a yes, no, or maybe.](#)
- Now that the state fiscal year is over for most of our institutions and with respect to the ballot that was emailed to you, we're interested in hearing whether you gave merit-based increases in the past year and, if so, what was your minimum % increase, maximum % increase, and average % increase? [Please send that information to Rick/Dave.](#)

Reminders/Updates:

- NIFA is requesting stakeholder feedback on the updated draft of the NIFA Policy Guide (see <https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/draft-2018-nifa-federal-assistance-policy-guide-stakeholder-review>). All comments must be submitted via email to policyguide@nifa.usda.gov by 5:00pm ET on Monday, July 30, 2018.
- Democrats from the House/Senate Joint Economic Committee issued a report on investing in rural America. We've posted that on the [NERA website](#). While it's some 180 pages in length, it's worth a look.
- Have you completed the Implicit Bias survey? We'd sure appreciate it if you did, it'll lead to a better informed session at the annual ESS/AES/ARD meeting on October 1-3, in Lincoln (**only 4 NERA respondents have completed the survey to date**). Here's the link for the survey: https://uwmadison.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0qF1poTHUE89KSN.
- [The presentations from the Joint Meeting are posted on the NERA website as are the draft minutes of the NERA business meeting.](#)
- Once again we're encouraging you to advise your scientists and staff to take advantage of the NERA

Funding Support for Grant Applications. This is a rolling call for support and the RFP is on the website: <http://www.nerasaes.org/planning-grants>.

Informational items:

- The Department of Community and Leadership Development in the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment at the University of Kentucky seeks applicants for a 12-month, tenure-track, Assistant/Associate Extension Professor position (see <https://ukjobs.uky.edu/postings/190700>).
- The USDA Foreign Agricultural Service has announced the Cochran Fellowship Program (Asia) and is soliciting US universities willing to host mid-level agricultural managers for 2 to 3-week intensive training programs. The funding notice is posted on the NERA website (<http://www.nerasaes.org/employment>).
- The University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources seeks a Business Services Specialist in the department of Family and Consumer Sciences. The job announcement is posted on the NERA website (<http://www.nerasaes.org/employment>).
- The University of the District of Columbia seeks a Senior Program Coordinator in Pesticide Safety. The job announcement is posted on the NERA website (<http://www.nerasaes.org/employment>).



Follow @NERASAES on Twitter

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

www.nerasaes.org

14 East Farm Road

Aquaculture Center

University of Rhode Island

Kingston, RI 02881

Executive Director, Dr. Richard C. Rhodes III: (401) 874-2468

Coordinator, David Leibovitz: (401) 874-4801

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