



In the Northeast, states are beginning to reopen and all the NERA stations have plans in place for phased resumption of operations including research. We have appreciated the opportunities to visit on a regular basis and will continue to offer that to you. We ask: what will the new equilibrium look like?

“The blues is always there. It's going to be hard out here, but it's all right. It's all right, and that's what the blues teaches you. You got to roll with the punches and find your equilibrium.” – Wynton Marsalis, 2001, from composite interviews with jazz writer Ted Panken published in 2015.

Action items:

- The [Multistate Research Fund Impacts](#) group is seeking closer connections with your research communicators. Please send [me](#) the name, email address and phone number of your primary research communicator and I'll submit the NERA list to the MRF impacts working group.
- The ballots are in and you have selected Dr. Adel Shirmohammadi (University of Maryland) as the Northeast's winner of the Experiment Station Section Award for Excellence in Leadership. You remember Adel as the energetic Associate Dean for Research and Associate Director of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES.) Adel will be recognized at the APLU Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL in November.
- *Save the date:* We planning to hold a virtual summer business meeting on June 10, 2020 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM EDT. Once the agenda is set, we'll share that with you.

Reminders/Updates:

- We're seeking interest from the NERA membership in working to address issues that have recently received press in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* ([Why New Research Calls Some Flagships 'Land-Grab Universities'](#), April 7,2020) and the *New York Times* ([Ask Who Paid for America's Universities](#), May 7, 2020). In the *Chronicle* article, writer Bennett Leckrone interviewed Robert Lee, an author of a long piece that was published in [High Country News](#) on March 30, 2020. Lee's thesis is that expropriated indigenous land is the foundation of the Land-grant University system. The *Chronicle* article ends: "...this is not designed to be the final word. It's designed to be a sort of a jump-start." We're now jump-starting the conversation. I'd add that ESCOP's Diversity Catalyst Committee is also engaged in the conversation.
- *Save the date:* The ESS/AES/ARD Annual Meeting is expected to be held as planned on September 28 – September 30, 2020 in Baltimore, MD. The theme of the meeting is “Inclusive Excellence.” The meeting planning group is developing contingency plans to add a virtual element to the meeting. Stay tuned.

Informational items:

- Would you please share with interested faculty: The Northeast Regional Aquaculture Center (NRAC) is [seeking pre-proposals](#) for projects in targeted research areas. The targeted research areas include:

- Social, political, and economic issues, including public perceptions, user conflicts, regulatory and legal issues, and constraints in markets and distribution networks, limit sustainable expansion of the aquaculture industry. NRAC seeks to fund development, implementation, and adoption of innovative approaches that foster regional industry growth and success.
 - Aquaculture in the Northeast region includes a diversity of species, systems, and industries. NRAC funds projects focused on all aspects of aquaculture relevant to inland and coastal states in the region, but with an emphasis on factors that continue to constrain the development, growth and profitability of aquaculture in the Northeast.
- South Dakota State University is seeking a [Research Manager](#) (40% research/60% administration) for the Dakota Lakes Field Station.



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

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