

NERA

Accomplishments Report of the Office of the Executive Director

July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

NERA Operations

- Continued improvement of operational efficiency.
- Evaluated analytics on NERA website and the biweekly NERA newsletter; made changes to improve readership and user engagement.
- Closed out FY '19 NERA financials; aligned with approved budget.
- Renewed NERA MOU with the University of Rhode Island.
- Initiated discussion of Northeast agenda.
- Developmental training (Dave – National Diversity Meeting; NERAOC)

Regional Activities

- NIMSS, served as RSAs. Oversee all NIMSS functions in the Northeast. Successfully routed all project renewals recommended by the MAC, approved by NERA, and approved by NIFA.
- Supported the MAC and MAC chair in planning, developing agendas, compiling materials, and running MAC Zoom conferences held on August 22, 2018, November 9, 2018, and March 1, 2019.
- Assisted multiple multistate technical committees working through issues associated with requests to write, project re-write/revisions, project reports, and project peer reviews.
- Oversaw NERA Planning Grant RFP. Processed and funded a planning grant and assisted a planning grant recipient with close-out. Secured final reports.
- Assisted the NERA chair in planning, developing an agenda, compiling materials, and executing NERA Zoom conferences held on August 30, 2018, December 6, 2018, and March 28, 2019.
- Assisted the NERA chair in planning, developing agendas, compiling materials, and executing NERA face-to-face meetings held on October 2, 2018 and June 4 – 5, 2019.
- Crafted nominations for the NE Leadership and NE Multistate Research Awards. Coordinated and conducted selection of nominees.
- Supported the 2019 Northeast Joint (NEED/NERA/AHS/APS/CARET) Summer Session planning committee, drafted versions of the meeting program, secured speakers, and hosted multiple Zoom conferences.
- Responded to NIFA Listening Session on behalf of the region on regional, priority, issue-areas, and AFRI funding (Hartford, CT.)
- Participated in monthly conference calls with NE Climate Hub/University partnership.
- Assisted NERA Directors on an “as needed” basis.
- Worked closely with Ali Mitchell to coordinate activities of NERA and NEED.
- Represented the Northeast region and ESS at the National Land-grant Diversity Conference (David.)
- NEMO; represented the Experiment Station directors at NEMO face-to-face meetings in Northampton, MA and Denver, CO (David.)
- AA for NECC1700 *Equine Clinical Studies*, NE1501 *Harnessing Chemical Ecology to Address*

Agricultural Pest and Pollinator Priorities, NRSP9 National Animal Nutrition Program, NECC1812 Northeast Coordinating Committee on Soil Testing, NE1939 Improving the Health Span of Aging Adults Through Diet and Physical Activity.

- Northeast Regional Aquaculture Center; served as Chairman of the Board. Provided guidance in the overall operations and mission of NRAC.
- Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development; served on the Board of Directors. Provided guidance in the overall operations and mission of NERCRD.
- Presented AES perspective on Federal funding to the APLU's Council on Governmental Affairs, Burlington, VT, August 3, 2018.
- Presented AES capabilities at the Civilian – Military Engagement Conference, Brown University, August 16 – 17, 2019.
- Presented NE AES perspective to the Northeast Business Managers, Northampton, MA, October 22, 2018.
- Rhode Island Livestock Welfare Commission; advised RI General Assembly on legislative issues revolving around animal welfare.

National Activities

- ESCOP Chair's Advisory Committee (CAC); contributed to monthly CAC conference calls.
- ESS Annual Meeting planning; supported ESS chair (Gary Thompson) in multiple planning calls, development of agendas and associated activities.
- ESS/CES/AHS Communications and Marketing Committee (CMC); served as the ESS Executive Director Administrative Representative and Executive Vice Chair. Assisted in scheduling, planning, and agenda development for quarterly Full Committee Zoom conference calls on September 6, 2018, November 29, 2018, and June 27, 2019. Assisted in the scheduling, planning, and agenda development for a face-to-face meeting of the CMC on March 3, 2019. Supported the Chair of the Plan of Work Committee in developing and receiving approval of the 2019 Plan of Work. Prepared monthly reports for ESCOP CAC calls and agenda briefs for the ESCOP Executive Committee meeting. Provided strategic direction to the CMC. Assisted and coordinated with external contractors, kglobal and Cornerstone, in support of the AgIsAmerica campaign and "Calls to Action." Assisted in the pivot of the CMC to support SNAP-Ed. Guided CMC Strategic Direction subcommittee. Assisted with transition of CMC following termination of the kglobal campaign.
- Supported BAA, ESCOP, and regional offices in response to Cornerstone's "One Ask" (\$200M increase to the NIFA budget to support the six priority areas: Hatch, Evans-Allen, Smith-Lever, 1890's Extension, McIntire-Stennis, and AFRI.)
- ESCOP website; provided support for adding content (David.)
- ESCOP Diversity Catalyst Committee; served as the Executive Vice Chair. Developed strategies for integrating the recommendations of the Diversity Catalyst Committee into the "system" (e.g., create a small group to review and make recommendations on the Rules of Operation; Multistate Guidelines; general practices; expected behaviors; websites, and any other documents affiliated with ESS assignments to ensure open and inclusive processes, procedures and appointments.) Participated in diversity and inclusion excellence training. Presented the first ESS Diversity and Inclusion Award. Conducted the year two Diversity and Inclusion Award review; identified recipient. Assisted ESS by providing regular, systematic, and strategic diversity and inclusion training for directors.

- NRSP Review Committee; served as Executive Vice to Chair Fred Servello. Assisted in scheduling, planning, and agenda development of the annual face to face meeting in Warwick, RI, May 29, 2019. Oversaw and rewrite/renewal of NRSP3 and NRSP10.
- National Impact Database; served on the committee dedicated to revising and reviving the National Impact Database.
- Participated and contributed to semiannual National Multistate Coordinating Committee meetings. Coordinated and collaborated with regional executive directors from CES and ESS.
- New Administrator Orientation; worked with Ali Mitchell and Wendy Fink in the development, planning and execution of conference scheduled for December, 2019.
- NERAOC; NERA represents the Experiment Station Section on the planning committee. (David.) Currently working with NIFA and the NE region to secure a host site for the 2020 NERAOC Annual Meeting.
- NIFA Programs; monitored through teleconferences and webinars developments on the NIFA budget, competitive grants program, reporting requirements and Hatch MRF.

Travel

- July 16 – 18, 2018, Joint COPS, Guadalajara, Mexico (David and Rick.)
- August 2 – 3, 2018, Campus visit, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT.
- October 1 – 3, 2018, ESS/SAES/ARD Annual Meeting, Lincoln, NE.
- October 4 – 5, 2018, Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development, Geneva, NY.
- October, 11, 2019, NIFA Listening Session, Hartford, CT.
- October 21 – 22, 2019, NEMO Annual Meeting, Northampton, MA (David and Rick.)
- November 11 – 14, APLU Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- November 26 – 28, 2018, National Multistate Coordinating Committee meeting, Orlando, FL.
- January 8 – 9, 2019, Northeast Regional Aquaculture Center Technical/Industry Committee Meeting, Board of Directors Meeting, Boston, MA.
- January 22, 2019, APLU visit, Washington, DC.
- February 7 – 8, 2019, 15th Annual National Land-Grant Diversity Conference, Hebron, KY (David.)
- March 3 – 4, 2019, CARET/AHS Meeting, Washington, DC.
- April 6 – 8, 2019, National Multistate Coordinating Committee meeting, Washington, DC.
- April 14 – 18, 2019, NERAOC Annual Meeting, Denver, CO (David.)
- May 29, 2019, National Research Support Project Review Committee Meeting, Warwick, RI (David and Rick.)
- June 2 – 5, 2019, Northeast Joint Summer Meeting, Washington, DC (David and Rick.)