



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

The infrastructure initiative that the Experiment Station Section is pursuing continues to unfold. Check out the first action item.

If you're looking at your calendar be sure to hold March 9 from 10 AM to 12 PM for NERA's virtual spring teleconference.

We have our fingers crossed that you've found your registration portal and are in line to get vaccinated. Be safe, be well!

"The true competitors, though, are the ones who always play to win." - Tom Brady, 2012, from an interview with Matthew McConaughey. "New Again: Tom Brady" in [Interview Magazine, January 27, 2012](#).

Action items:

- The initiative on infrastructure ([Agricultural Research Infrastructure Advocacy](#) or ARIA) has been included in our NERA News for the month of January. The NERA Executive Committee has responded to the ARIA with recommendations. In the meantime, the initiative moves forward. According to the current ARIA timeline, directors should be working with their institutional government affairs representatives, identifying influencers and crafting a list of "concept to shovel-ready" infrastructure projects. I share the following questions for your consideration and to prompt a NERA Town Hall meeting as a means to engage our association. This is an exciting opportunity for the system that has the best shot at succeeding if we are all on board. Thus, your constructive feedback (positive or negative) at this stage in the process is important. I appreciate your consideration and participation in this important initiative.
 - Does your institution support the Agriculture Research Infrastructure Advocacy (ARIA) to seek \$11.5 billion?
 - What attributes are most appealing about this effort?
 - Do you believe that this effort will assist you and your institution?
 - Would you be willing to activate your networks to assist moving this initiative forward?
 - What are your concerns about the effort?
 - What in the ARIA doesn't work for you?
 - Are there "dealbreakers" and, if so, what solutions might be implemented to seal the deal?
- On February 1, the Multistate Activities Committee sought your nomination of a multistate project for the 2021 Experiment Station Section Award for Excellence in Multistate Research. As an Administrative Advisor, there's still time to identify your project. Please return the Excel spreadsheet sent last week or send a brief statement of why a project should be nominated for the national award. Likewise, are you working with a project that's ready for impact writing workshop? If so, let me know!
- NERA will be hosting a best practices work session on "All Things NIMSS" on February 23 at 10:00 –

11:00 AM ET. Directors and business officers are welcome to join! Connection details will be forwarded on the NERA Listserv.

- Hold the date: we'll hold the virtual NERA Spring Quarterly Meeting on March 9, 2021 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET.

Reminders/Updates:

- Tomorrow: NIFA is offering a webinar “Applying to NIFA Research Programs as a Small or Mid-Sized Institution” on February 9th at 2:00 PM ET (1:00 PM CT). As the title indicates, the webinar is intended to encourage applications to NIFA’s competitive research and extension programs from scientists located at small and mid-sized institutions. [Registration](#), while free, is required.
- [Registration](#) is open for the 2021 Joint CARET/AHS Virtual meeting, to be held February 26 - March 04. [Click here](#) to view the meeting agenda.

Informational items:

- The University of Maine invites applications and nominations for the position of [Dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture](#). The dean is the chief executive officer of the college and reports to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.
- Cornell AgriTech is seeking applicants for an Associate Director for Agriculture Research Operations position at the Geneva Field Research Unit. Visit the [NERA website](#) to view the position description.
- The University of Maryland is recruiting for five new positions in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Visit the [NERA website](#) to view the position descriptions.
- Oregon State University is currently recruiting a new [Branch Experiment Station Director](#) at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center.
- Colorado State University is seeking applicants for an [Assistant Manager](#) for research, operations, supervision, compliance/regulatory, and outreach activities position at the San Luis Valley Research Center in Center, CO.
- *Second time:* [Applications](#) are now being accepted for the seventeenth cohort in the [Food Systems Leadership Institute](#) (FSLI) starting in the fall of 2021. FSLI offers executive leadership development to upper-level leaders in higher education, government, and industry to prepare them to meet the leadership challenges and opportunities of the future. For optimal consideration interested parties should apply before March 1!
- *Second time:* The offices of the Vice President for Research and Innovation and University Outreach and Engagement is presenting a conference titled **Broader Impacts of Research: Strategies, Resources, and Partners** on March 17-18, 2021. This virtual meeting is intended to provide faculty, staff, and students who are interested in applying for NSF grants with an overview of the broader impacts (BI) of research criterion. Click here to [register](#).



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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.

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