



Last week, NERA's subcommittee on communications forwarded to your primary communications contacts, an assessment survey on Northeastern communications assets and needs. While we seek your assistance in the first action step, we wanted all of you to know that colleague and subcommittee member, Lori Gula (UNH), was a chief architect in the Northeast communications effort prior to the time that she accepted a position at NIFA. We missed providing Lori with attribution when we sent the original survey to the communicators.

Be on the lookout for an announcement of a mid-December NERA meeting. One of the items on the quarterly call will be the setting of the agenda for our face-to-face meeting in Philadelphia on March 15-16, 2022.

Next week, you all will have an opportunity to celebrate Thanksgiving. Wherever you might be, David and I extend our holiday wishes across the region. May your home be filled with family, friends, love, laughter and happiness!

"Vast vision must improve our sight  
Perhaps at last we'll see an end to our home's endless blight  
And the beginning of the free  
Climb to tranquility, finding its real worth  
Conceiving the heavens, flourishing on Earth"  
-Graeme Edge (1969) late drummer of the Moody Blues from "Higher and Higher" on the record album *To Our Children's Children's Children*, Decca Records, London, England.

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### Action items:

- As noted in the introduction, NERA's subcommittee on communications shared a survey that assesses the Northeast's regional communications and assets. We'd ask that you encourage your communications experts to submit the survey as we continue to develop a Northeast Communicators Network as a strategy to best tell our stories.

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### Reminders/Updates:

- We've posted the revised [Rules of Operation for NERA](#) on our website. You'll recollect that the Association approved changes to the Rules of Operation during the NERA business meeting on

September 28, 2021.

- *Save the date*: NERA will be meeting face-to-face on March 15-16, 2022 in Philadelphia, PA.
- *Second time*: Northeast Administrative Advisors: You've probably seen that NIFA has updated their representatives on a number of NE multistate research projects. If your project has been assigned a new NIFA representative, it'd be worth your time to reach out to the NIFA rep to introduce yourself and touch base.

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### ***Informational items:***

- Virginia Tech is seeking applicants for administrative leadership positions including: [Director, Alson H. Smith Agricultural Research and Extension Center](#), Winchester, VA; [Director, Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research and Extension Center](#), Blackstone, VA. Additionally, VaTech is also searching for three off-campus, tenure track positions: [Assistant Professor, Vegetable/Field Crops Plant Pathologist](#), Eastern Shore Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Painter, VA; [Assistant Professor, Applied Plant Pathology](#), Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Blackstone, VA; and [Assistant Professor, Food Traceability](#), Virginia Seafood Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Hampton, VA.
- The University of Maryland is seeking applicants for three new positions: [Extension Program Assistant \(4-H Youth Development\)](#), [Family and Consumer Sciences Agent](#), and [IT Programmer II](#).
- American Samoa Department of Health is searching for a full-time US licensed [Veterinarian](#) for the Territory of American Samoa.
- The nomination period for membership on the USDA Equity Commission and its Subcommittee on Agriculture has been extended until November 20, 2021. [Click here for more information](#).



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