



We're looking forward to seeing you all in Lincoln next week. The first action item is a repost from two weeks ago and remains a priority.

Action items:

- NIFA is holding a listening session ([NIFA Listens](#)) in the northeast (Hartford, CT) on October 11th. I plan to attend and to provide NIFA with a 5-minute, oral presentation on behalf of NERA. We're seeking your input on several questions: Do you plan to attend? Do you plan to deliver remarks? Do you have input that you'd like me to share with NIFA. To frame the discussion, NIFA is seeking our input on three questions:

- In your field, what is the most-needed breakthrough in science/technology that would advance your agricultural enterprise?
- When considering all of agriculture, what is the greatest challenge that should be addressed through NIFA's research, education, and extension programs?
- What is your top priority in food and agricultural research, extension, or education that NIFA should address?"

[Please forward your thoughts and intent on the NIFA listening session by October 1st.](#)

- NEED is seeking examples from institutions that have had successful student-sharing programs (students from your institution participate in another institution's academic programs at no extra cost to your students). This could be either face-to-face or virtual. [Please forward examples to me, I'll assemble and share with Ali Mitchell.](#)

Reminders/Updates:

- The off-campus F&A rate setting policy document is posted on the NERA website ([Institutional F&A rates Off Campus Policies](#)).
- Thanks to directors that cast a vote! NERA submitted the following projects to NIFA for final approval: NE1833 *Biological Improvement of Chestnut through Technologies that Address Management of the Species and its Pathogens and Pests*; NE1832 *Biological Control of Arthropod Pests and Weeds*; and NE1839 *Development and Evaluation of Broccoli Adapted to the Eastern US*. The MAC has approved two requests to write: NE-TEMP1941 *Environmental Impacts of Equine Operations* and NE_TEMP1942 *Poultry Production Systems and Well-being: Sustainability for Tomorrow*.
- And the beat goes on: Last week, the American Statistical Association hosted a webinar on the relocation of NIFA and the reorganization of ERS. There were 464 registrants for the webinar ([USDA](#)

[Research Relocation and Reorganization: Perspectives from Former USDA Chief Scientists and Administrators](#)) and the speakers included Cathy Woteki, Susan Offut, Gale Buchanan, Steve Censky, and Scott Swinton (moderator). We joined the webinar and would encourage you to take check out the conversation.

- A draft of the agenda for the NERA Business Meeting October 2018 is posted on the NERA website (<http://www.nerasaes.org/2018-fall-meeting-docs>).

Informational items:

- Purdue University is seeking applicants for the position of **Associate Dean and Director of Agricultural Research and Graduate Education**. For more details, go to www.ag.purdue.edu/arge.
- The University of Tennessee invites applicants for an **Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics**. The position description is posted on the NERA website (<http://www.nerasaes.org/employment>).
- Steve Slack has asked the regional executive directors to share the announcement for the 1st All Africa Congress on Synthetic Pesticides, Environment, Human and Animal Health to be held in Nairobi, Kenya (June 18 – 20, 2019.) The link to the meeting including directions for submitting abstracts can be found at <https://www.worldfoodpreservationcenterpesticidecongress.com/>.



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