



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

As we move into the New Year, you can expect some changes in the way the Office of Executive Director communicates with you. We'll continue to use the newsletter to provide you with reliable, consistent information intended to engage. We'll supplement the newsletter with occasional listserv asks, especially with time-sensitive items. We'll also solicit you for user-generated content. What do you want in the NERA News?

Dave and I hope that you had a productive fall semester and share best wishes for a happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year!

Action items:

- The [minutes for the December 6, 2018 teleconference](#) are posted on the NERA website. Please review.
- Our long-time colleague at the University of Maryland, **Dr. Adel Shirmohammadi**, is stepping down from his position as Associate Dean and Associate Director of the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station in June, 2019. (The job description for his position is shared in [Informational Items](#).) He's served as an administrator for the University of Maryland for ten years and his decade-long term is contractually ending. Please join me in extending our best to Adel as he seeks his next academic adventure!
- The University of Connecticut has appointed **Dr. Indrajeet Chaubey** as the new **Dean of the College of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources** and the **Director of the Connecticut Cooperative Extension System and the Storrs Agricultural Experiment Station**. Indrajeet comes to UConn from Purdue University, where he held a number of positions over the past 12 years, including associate dean and director of international programs of the College of Agriculture since 2016. If you have the opportunity, welcome Indrajeet to the region and NERA!
- NRSP10, [National Database Resources for Crop Genomics, Genetics and Breeding Research](#) seeks a **NERA AA**. [If you'd like to take this on, please share that with Dave or Rick.](#)
- Do you have specific items that you would like to see added to the **NERA News**? [If so, please provide those to Dave and Rick.](#)
- The NERA Office will be closed during the holidays (December 21, 2018 – January 1, 2019). That said, Dave and I will both be monitoring email.

Reminders/Updates:

- During the December 6, 2018 NERA teleconference we discussed nominations for the three 2019 ESS awards: [ESS Leadership](#) (2018 NE winner: Ian Maw; nominations due to NERA by February 1,

2019), [Excellence in Multistate Research](#) (2018 NE nominee: NE1335, Resource Management in Commercial Greenhouse Production; nomination due to NERA by February 28, 2019) and [National Experiment Station Section Diversity and Inclusion Award](#) (2018 National winner: MAP@Purdue Team; nominations due to the Diversity Catalyst Executive Vice Chair, Rick Rhodes by March 30, 2019.) If you're an AA for a high-performing multistate research project, nominate them. If you know of an individual that has contribute to the NE's ESS leadership, nominate them. If you know of a person or organization that has contributed conspicuously to organizational diversity and inclusion, nominate them.

Informational items:

- Texas A&M University invites applications for the position of **Professor and Head of the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications**. The job announcement is posted on the [NERA website \(http://www.nerasaes.org/employment\)](http://www.nerasaes.org/employment).
- The Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development seeks applications for two, one-year **Postdoctoral Scholar** positions ([Agricultural Marketing Service Technical Assistance](#) and [Economics and Econometric Analysis](#).)
- Washington State University's Department of Crop and Soil Sciences seeks the [Robert A. Nilan Endowed Chair in Barley Research and Education](#) to guide work in dryland cropping systems improvement.
- The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Maryland, College Park, invites applications and nominations for the position of **Associate Dean** and **Associate Director** of the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES). The job description is posted on the [NERA website \(http://www.nerasaes.org/employment\)](http://www.nerasaes.org/employment).
- The National Extension Tourism (NET) Design Team has opened its Call for Proposals for the [2019 Sustainable Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Conference](#) (October 8 – 11, 2019, Astoria Oregon.)
- *Second time around:* The [RFA](#) for graduate fellowships, **Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship (NNF) Grants**, has been released by NIFA. Applications are due on January 23, 2019.



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Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (NERA)

www.nerasaes.org

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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