



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

This will be a short newsletter, a reflection of NERA gathering next week in Raleigh. For you all, the NERA business meeting agenda and supplementary materials are now posted. Check out the only action item.

*“Leadership is about making others better as a result of your presence and making sure that impact lasts in your absence.” – Sheryl Sandberg (2013) in *Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead*, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, NY.*

Action items:

- The [agenda and supporting materials](#) for the NERA business meeting on September 23 (face-to-face only, no virtual/hybrid capacity) are posted on the NERA website.

Reminders/Updates:

- *Last time:* The [2024 agInnovation Fall Meeting](#) is in Raleigh, NC on September 22-25, 2024. The theme for the meeting is “Reimagining the Land-grant University-Industry Relationship”. The [full meeting agenda](#) is posted on the website.
- *A continuing ask:* We are seeking Administrative Advisers (AA) for several projects as our NERA ranks evolve. Many thanks to the AAs that are rotating off projects. Projects that are seeking AAs include: NE2201 *Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals* and NRSP8 *Genomic Capacity: Building Applied Genomic Capacity for Animal Industries*. If you’re interested, please contact Rick.

Informational items:

- The Solar Energy Technology Office (DOE) has launched the [American-Made Large Animal and Solar System Operations \(LASSO\) Prize](#), a competition designed to bring cattle agrivoltaics projects to life. The LASSO Prize will provide more than \$8 million in cash prizes to develop innovative co-location practices, build pilot sites, and share information on best practices, costs, energy, and agricultural outcomes. An informational webinar is scheduled on September 24 at 1 PM ET, [registration is required](#).
- The APLU is hosting a webinar on October 10 at 5:00 PM ET for the Administrative Heads Section, titled “Appointing, Equipping and Engagement of CARET Delegates”. [Registration is required](#).
- The APLU Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 10-12 in Orlando Florida. The theme of this year’s meeting is “Our Public Purpose”. [Registration for the meeting](#) is open and the cost of registration goes up on October 1.
- The APLU has re-opened the search for the [Director of Agriculture and International Development](#) in the Governmental Affairs Office. The preferred application deadline is September 30.
- CAST is hosting a webinar on Thursday, September 26, 2 PM ET, titled “H5Nx Policy Gaps and the Path Forward: A Deep Dive into the current situation of H5 influenza”. The presenters will explore the critical challenges and future direction in addressing H5 influenza. This presentation will provide a unique opportunity to

engage with leading experts from the American Association of Avian Pathologists (AAAP). [Registration is required.](#)

- *The forever green reminder.* In past NERA newsletters, we've made a pitch for "station" photos for both the NERA website and **The Parting Shot**. At the spring meeting we discussed institutions having image libraries. The image libraries are rich archives of photos. We encourage you to share shots from your libraries as well as other image sources. Please [forward pictures to us](#) with a caption and a photo credit.

From the Archive:

- *The context.* We just sent out NERA assessment notices. If you ever wondered about the assessment, we have a page on the NERA website ([NERA Assessments and Budget](#)) that shares information about annual assessments, the NERA budget, and an explanation of what the NERA budget pays for. Check it out.

The Parting Shot:



Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences hosts the annual Ag Progress Days, which is Pennsylvania's largest outdoor agricultural exhibition with more than 40,000 visitors over the three days of the event. This year's theme for the college's research showcase was [Technologies for Agriculture and Living Systems](#), demonstrating how researchers and extension personnel are developing and testing emerging and advanced technologies to advance the state's industries while also protecting our landscapes. (Photo: Penn State)

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NERA and its member institutions are committed to the principles of affirmative action, diversity, and inclusion.

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