



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

There are two action items that we wish to bring to your attention. You'll see below, a follow-up survey about the Northeast Agenda. Our goal is for everyone to respond. (The challenge has been issued!) There are also several dates that Matt is asking for you to place on your calendar. In short, the Experiment Station is seeking your participation and engagement.

We hope your Halloween is a total scream!

“There is something at work in my soul, which I do not understand.” – Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley (1831) in *Frankenstein*, Colburn and Bentley, London.

Action items:

- Following up on Northeast Agenda conversations that we had in Portland and Baltimore, Erica Mirich is seeking the assistance of all NERA members to share your thoughts on the collective efforts of NEED and NERA. We ask that you complete a short survey, [Northeast Agenda: Purpose, Mission and Vision](#), by this Friday, November 4. **We welcome more than one response per institution!**
- We forwarded the Experiment Station Section Budget and Budget Narrative last Friday (it's also posted [here](#) on the NERA website). Matt presented this budget to the section in Baltimore. In late November, each station will have an opportunity to vote on the budget which includes an assessment to the Section (\$100,000), identical to the assessment paid by the section during the past two years. Would you please review the budget and budget narrative. As a heads up, we in the Executive Director's office support approving the budget.
- *Save the date:* Matt is planning to host a virtual, mid-year ESCOP meeting on December 7, 2022 at 4:00- PM ET and an Experiment Station Section meeting on March 8, 2023 at 4PM ET. One of the ESS/ESCOP chair's initiatives is “director engagement”. Stay tuned for the opportunity to register for the gatherings.

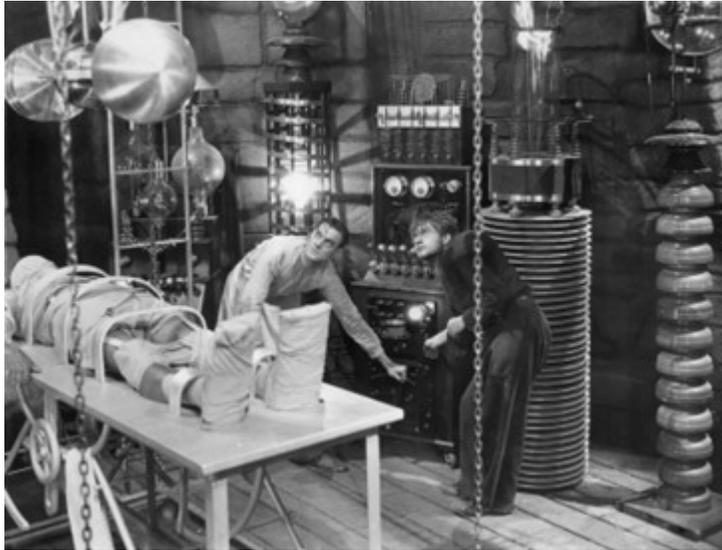
Reminders/Updates:

- This is a last-minute reminder that NIFA is hosting two [listening sessions](#) on Wednesday, November 2. Each of the sessions are intended to gather stakeholder input on the research, extension, and education priorities of NIFA. We invite you to join. We also share that NERA will be submitting written input in response to NIFA Listens. If there are specific items that you'd like to see incorporated into NERA's response, please submit those to [us](#).
- The minutes for the NERA Business Meeting in Baltimore are [posted on the NERA website](#), check them out.
- **And again:** We are seeking new members for a several ESCOP committees including [Science and](#)

[Technology](#) (replace Jody Jellison) and [Budget and Legislative](#) (new slot for NERA as Anton Bekkerman takes on BLC chair duties). The list of NERA members on all committees is posted on the NERA website.

Informational items:

- NEED and NERA held listening sessions on October 17 and 19 on the [ecosystem services report](#) that the two organizations supported. More to come on an “Ecosystem Services Symposium”.
- A national search is being initiated for the position of [Associate Dean and Director of Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station](#) (VAES). As many of you know, Dr. Saied Mostaghimi has announced his plan to retire from his role as associate dean and director of VAES in April 2023.
- **Second time: The Fall 2022 NSF Virtual Grants Conference** will be broadcast live on Zoom during the week of **November 14 – 17, 2022**. To register for this free event, visit the [conference website](#).



Colin Clive (left) and Dwight Frye (right) in *Frankenstein* (1931).

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

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