



Typically, our actions items are the first topics that we seek to draw your attention. Don't miss the first reminder/update. NERA is making a difference...

"I know of nothing so pleasant to the mind, as the discovery of anything which is at once *new* and *valuable* — nothing which so lightens and sweetens toil, as the hopeful pursuit of such discovery." Abraham Lincoln, address given before the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, Milwaukee, WI (September 30, 1859)

Action items:

- Registration for rooms ([Embassy Suites](#)) and the [2019 Joint Summer Session](#) are open. Don't wait to register! Remember, we'll be running our NERA face-to-face business meeting directly after the joint session. The meetings are scheduled for June 2–5, 2019.
- On May 3rd, Secretary Perdue announced the [top sites for relocating NIFA](#) and the ERS. The top sites included the greater Kansas City area, Research Triangle Park and several unidentified areas in Indiana. In response, the APLU sent a [letter of concern](#) to Secretary Perdue. Whether your institution had shared an expression of interest or not, no city in the Northeast is under consideration. I'd suggest that either non-selection of a Northeast city or being against the move of NIFA altogether constitutes a rationale to engage your government affairs officials and your congressional offices.

Reminders/Updates:

- The ESCOP Executive Committee recently endorsed the following statement "*ESCOP strongly endorses restoration of the match waiver provided to Land-grant and qualifying non-Land-grant universities for grant programs supported by NIFA (e.g., SCRI, OREI.) Further, elimination of the match requirement altogether would provide long-term relief to all prospective NIFA grant applicants. In the interim, ESCOP seeks clarification of the interpretation of "in-kind match" and advocates for the broadest interpretation.*" Thanks to NERA for supporting the dialogue on these issues.

Informational items:

- *Date hold:* The annual Joint COPS meeting scheduled to meet on July 21-24 at the Westgate Park City Resort & Spa, located at 3000 Canyons Resort Dr., Park City, UT. The hotel reservation link is live at: <https://resort.to/aplu>.
- *Date hold:* The APLU is hosting a **New Deans', Directors', and Administrators' Orientation on December 10 – 12, 2019.**
- The University of Maryland seeks applicants for two positions: Assistant Director and Program Leader for 4-H Youth Development, and Extension Specialist - Weed Management. These positions are posted on the NERA Website (www.noreres.org/employment)



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

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