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Many thanks to all of you that joined the ESS/CES-NEDA/NERA meeting in Baltimore. From the perspective of your Executive Director, we are at our best when we are together.

While we don't have a lot to share with you, there are a couple of time sensitive items below.

“A lack of trust is your biggest expense.” – David Horsager (2021) in *Trusted Leader: 8 Pillars that Drive Results*, Berrett-Koehler Publishers Inc., Oakland, CA. (David was also the keynote speaker at the recent ESS/CES-NEDA Meeting.)

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#### Action items:

- Matt Wilson is now the chair of the Experiment Station Section (ESS) and ESCOP. This places the region in a unique leadership position. If there are specific initiatives that you would like to see ESS/ESCOP pursue, [please let us know](#).
- The Experiment Station Section has shared with the Committee on Legislation and Policy (CLP, also known as the Farm Bill Committee) a list of “must haves”. (We've posted a [copy of the “must haves”](#) on the NERA website.) One of the “must haves” is modification of the Hatch statute language that clearly designates the “experiment station director” (versus “director” or “research director”) as the chief administrative officer of the capacity funds. This makes the language consistent with Smith–Lever which clearly designates authority to the “Cooperative Extension Director”. While the ESS has been seeking this change for some time, Lewis-Burke Associates, the advocacy consultants of the APLU, asked the Executive Directors to broadly communicate the change to ensure that all deans and directors are apprised of the ask and on board. If you have concerns or comments on the change, [we're listening](#).
- Deb Hamernik has shared information and insight on [new capacity funds reporting requirements](#) associated with reporting on “Performance Site Locations” and “Project Abstract Forms”. Bottom line: simple is better. If you have concerns about the reporting requirements, [please share those with us](#).
- Heads up: Please expect follow-up from us related to the Northeast Agenda. More to come!

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#### Reminders/Updates:

- We are again seeking pictures that typify research activities on your campus. We'll run those on the scrolling banner on the NERA website. Please send your photos to [David](#).

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#### Informational items:

- West Virginia State University is currently searching for an [Associate Dean/Associate Director](#) of its Agricultural and Environment Research Station. WVSU has extended the application deadline to October

31, 2022.

- The University of Maryland is searching for an [Agent Associate in Forest Stewardship](#). The deadline for application is November 7, 2022.



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

[www.nerasaes.org](http://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

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