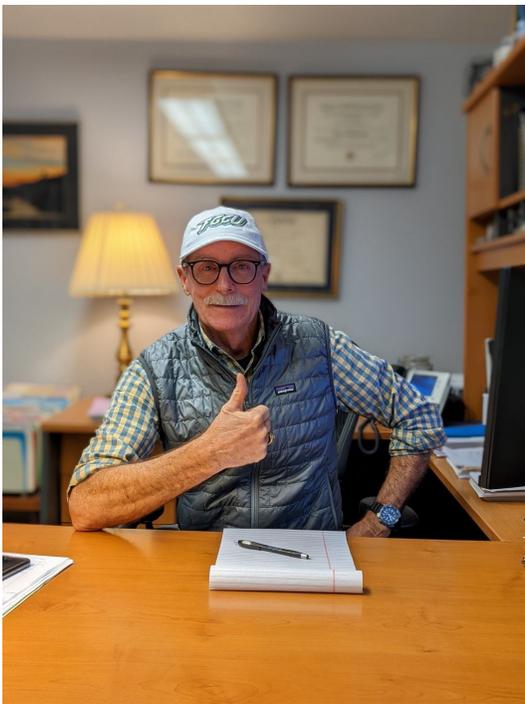




Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

This is a very busy time of year both personally and professionally. The fall semester has wound down, we're all scrambling to clear our desks in anticipation of the holidays and any deadlines that revolve around the first of the new year, and then there's the shopping thing... Dave and I both extend our holiday best to you all and hope that our gift to you is captured in our biweekly quote.



As an experiment, we added a photo to our newsletter. The photo has a story behind it. As you know, our colleague and friend, Mark Rieger, left the University of Delaware a year ago to take on the job as Executive Vice President and Provost at Florida Gulf Coast University, in Fort Myers, FL. On November 23, the men's basketball team of the University of Rhode Island played Florida Gulf Coast University. To pique interest in the game, I extended a wager to Mark. Should FGCU lose, he agreed to wear a URI hat and be photographed in that hat. Likewise, should URI lose, I agreed to be photographed in a FGCU hat. The final score: URI 66 – FGCU 67. I'm now fulfilling my portion of the agreement.

If you have a photo and related story and you'd like to share those with your NERA colleagues, please send them along to us. We hope the fulfillment of the bet made you smile...

“May your walls know joy, may every room hold laughter, and every window open to great possibility.” –Mary Anne Radmacher (2009) in *May Your Walls Know Joy*, Red Wheel/Weiser, LLC, San Francisco, CA.

Action items:

- The NERA quarterly teleconference is scheduled for December 15, 2021 from 8:30 am – 10:00 am EST. The most [current version of the agenda](#) is posted on the NERA website. We've sent a separate

email with the agenda, supporting materials, and the meeting connection details.

- Following the lead on the development of reporting modules for research and Extension, NIFA is seeking a Northeast business officer with experience in Station financial reporting and an interest in helping NIFA develop the new financial reporting module. If you have someone with that expertise and interest, please let [me](#) know.
- We're seeking winter photos from all of you. As you know, we feature pictures of NERA institutions on the scrolling banner that we run on the website. Please share your shots with [Dave](#). As we note above, if you have a photo and a story that you'd like to share in the NERA News, send those along as well.

Reminders/Updates:

- NIFA has asked that NERA share the following reminder with all of our Northeast administrative officers.
 - Financial reports are due February 1, 2022. Use REEport for financial reporting on Capacity Research Projects with a **FY2021 termination date**. All capacity projects that were active in REEport in FY2021 will file their financial reports in REEport (this is different from what NIFA suggested previously). The REEport download capability is still functional, so the process for filing financial reports in REEport is the same as previous years. Capacity projects that were approved in NRS to begin in FY2021 will file financial reports. NIFA will be following up in the near future regarding how to submit financial reports for projects that were NOT active in REEport. Please direct questions to POW@USDA.GOV.
- *Second and last time:* We sent to you a solicitation from Henry Fadamiro, chair of ESCOP's Diversity Catalyst Committee (DCC) asking for actions that you've taken in response to the [DCC's Call to Action](#). As Henry suggested, please send your response to the call to action to [Rick](#) by December 15, 2021.
- *Save the date:* NERA will be meeting face-to-face on March 15-16, 2022 in Philadelphia, PA.

Informational items:

- The University of Nevada, Reno seeks a strategic, visionary leader to serve as the [Director of Extension and Associate Dean for Engagement](#) within the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources.



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

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