



We are approaching a busy legislative season. While the annual CARET/AHS meeting will be virtual this year, visits to Capitol Hill are still being planned. The Experiment Station's Budget and Legislative Committee and the BAA's Budget and Advocacy Committee have both been meeting providing input on appropriations for FY'22 and '23. If you have thoughts on the Farm Bill or Federal appropriations, we'd like to hear those. Check out Reminders/Updates!

We never tire of sharing reminders, so be sure to block your calendar for NERA's Spring Meeting 2022 (see the first [action item](#).)

Last, the Winter Olympics have just ended and the Winter Paralympics Games begin on March 4. This week's quote comes from friend, prone paddle-boarder, colleague, and Paralympian, Dan Crossen, a winner of one gold, four silvers, and a bronze medal in Nordic skiing at the Winter Games, PyeongChang 2018. Dan is a former Navy Seal who was awarded the Purple Star and Bronze Star for Valor.

"The key to high performance of an elite team is to have a sense of purpose and cohesion. Every member knows their specific role and they see how their role relates to the performance of the organization. And the organization has solid leadership" – Dan Crossen, October 9, 2020, in [The Power of Coaching](#), YouTube video.

Action items:

- The Administrative Heads Section (AHS) and the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET) will be meeting virtually on March 6-9. [Registration](#) is required. Here's a link to the [virtual event schedule](#).
- **NERA Spring Meeting: NERA will meet virtually on March 15 from 8:30 AM-12:00 PM.** Please mark your calendar! We've created a [NERA Spring Meeting 2022 landing page](#), the meeting agenda is posted there.
- The Experiment Station's Diversity Catalyst Committee (DCC) has two items for your consideration.

The first is to seek nominations for the [National Experiment Station Section Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award](#). Do you have a deserving individual or team that should be recognized for their work in pluralistic and inclusive efforts within your station? Please consider nominating them. The second item comes from the DCC chair, Henry Fadamiro. Henry shares that during the DCC's recent meeting, the institutional responses to the DCC's [Call to Action](#) were discussed. Of the responses received, Cornell AgriTech submitted a statement that the DCC described as an exemplar. The committee noted that "the efforts undertaken by Cornell are coordinated, intentional, and well-resourced. The commitment to DEI is clear." We've posted to the NERA website, [Cornell AgriTech's Inclusive Excellence Call to Action 2021 Report](#), submitted by Anna Katherine Mansfield. Please check it out, it's worth a read!

Reminders/Updates:

- The BAA's Committee on Legislation and Policy (CLP, also known as the Farm Bill Committee) is identifying priorities/opportunities and is developing the first draft of the CLP's recommendations. Your NERA Chair, Eric Wommack, has suggested that we seek relief from the indirect cost return (ICR) limitation that's placed on NIFA grants. You might recollect that the original ICR cap on NIFA (then CSREES) grants was legislated in the 1977 Farm Bill (known better as NAREPTA, Section 1462(a)). If you have suggestions to share about the Farm Bill, [we're](#) listening.
 - If you have suggestions for appropriations, I'd share that NERA has two members on the Budget and Legislative Committee: [Anton Bekkerman](#) is the incoming chair and [Puneet Srivastava](#) is a committee member.
-

Informational items:

- Please hold June 5-7, 2022 on your calendar in anticipation of the face-to-face NEED/NERA Joint Summer Meeting at the Portland Regency in Portland, ME.
- The College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University is seeking a [Director for the Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center \(HAREC\)](#), located in Hermiston, Oregon.
- Virginia Tech welcomes applications for a tenure-track faculty position for the ranks of [Assistant or Associate Professor in cyberbiosecurity](#). This position is a collaboration between Virginia Tech's [College of Agriculture and Life Sciences](#) (CALS) and the [Commonwealth Cyber Initiative](#) (CCI).
- The University of Tennessee will be hosting the **2nd U.S. Precision Livestock Farming Conference (USPLF 2023)** scheduled for **May 21 – 24, 2023** in Knoxville, TN. The conference theme is *Field Implementation of PLF*. Abstract submission will open on May 15, 2022, and papers are sought in the following topic areas: Sensors and Sensing in PLF; Data Management and Algorithm Development; Measuring, Modeling, and Managing of Dynamic Responses; and Societal Impacts of PLF. Additional information and deadlines can be found at the conference website [USPLF2023.utk.edu](#).



Follow @NERASAES on Twitter

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

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

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

Please do not reply directly to this MailChimp message.