



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

We've just been through a frenzy of virtual meetings, Joint COPS. We've profiled the primary outcomes below in "Action Items". While no immediate action is required on your part, there are a number of "heads ups." On a different front, we're interested to hear how you and your institution are approaching the fall and the possibility that the country or parts of the country revert to public health precautions that were in place during previous surges of the pandemic. Last, as we've shared previously, take some time off this summer, you need it!

"Appreciate and support the people who supply the menu." Mike Hoffmann, Carrie Koplinka-Loehr and Danielle Eiseman (2021) *in* Our Changing Menu: Climate Change and the Foods We Love and Need. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY.

Action items:

- The virtual Joint COPS meeting was held last week during which ESCOP and the BAA Policy Board of Directors met. The [draft minutes and supporting agenda briefs](#) are posted on the ESCOP website. Here are a few "take-homes" from the meeting.
 - The infrastructure effort (\$11.5B ask for bricks and mortar support) has secured support both in the House and Senate. Ongoing discussions are underway to seek bipartisan support.
 - The Experiment Station Section will be polled on priorities for the 2024 Farm Bill. Now is a good time to propose the "next big thing." (We can't help but think it'll be related to climate.)
 - The Communications and Marketing Committee (CMC) was broadly profiled last week. The new communications strategic roadmap is being deployed. (Are your communicators using the "plug and play" social media suggestions that are being shared as part of the strategic roadmap's monthly campaign?) The APLU has hired a new Vice President, Andrea Putman, to oversee the system's communications effort. (Andrea was the architect of SoAR's *Retaking the Field* and *Fed by Science*.) The CMC is also seeking status as a standing committee of the BAA, an initiative that will require approval by the system. (It's a good idea.) The National Impact Database Committee will most likely become a subcommittee of the CMC.
 - The Diversity Catalyst Committee will be sharing a "Call to Action" which will ask directors what strategic initiatives they are undertaking to address diversity and inclusion in their respective units.
- How are you and your institution responding to the "pandemic of the unvaccinated?" We're interested to hear your thinking and strategies as we move closer to the fall.

Reminders/Updates:

- Two weeks from today, the planning team for the ESS meeting will be sending out a poll to gauge your

intent to attend the [2021 Experiment Station Section Meeting](#) in Olympic Valley, CA on September 27-30, 2021. Stay tuned.

Informational items:

- *Again:* The [notes from the NERA Business Meeting on June 23, 2021](#) are posted on the NERA website. Please check those out!
- *Heads up:* NERA is slated to meet during the ESS meeting on Tuesday, September 28 from 9:00-11:30 AM PDT.
- ARS is seeking a Research Leader position at the National Clonal Germplasm Repository for Tree Fruits, Nut Crops, and Grapes, in Davis, California. The position closes on August 9, 2021. A brief summary of the position and directions on how to apply can be found at: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/607105100>
- The University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources is seeking applicants for two positions, both of which are posted on the [NERA website](#).



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.