



As we noted this time a year ago, things are relatively quiet around the NERA office. We hope that you're finding some quiet time to relax and recharge.

*Every great advance in science has issued from a new audacity of imagination.*  
– John Dewey, 1929, Chapter XI The Copernican Revolution, in [The Quest for Certainty](#).

### Action items:

- ESCOP continues to have conversations on the topic of “Strategic Realignment.” You’ll recall that this realignment seeks to aggregate the 40+ lines of the discretionary budget of NIFA to simplify the system’s advocacy and make the effort more effective. This is not an exercise to eliminate lines. We’re interested to hear your thoughts and concerns on the topic.
- [Hotel](#) and [meeting](#) registration for the 2019 Joint ESS/NEDA Meeting is open (Nashville, TN, September 23-25, 2019.) The theme for the meeting is **Renewing our Relevancy through Community Resilience**. We’ll also do our NERA fall meeting on September 25, 2019.

### Reminders/Updates:

- I met with Scott Angle last week and it’s clear that the NIFA move will happen. *Politico* reports that half of the ERS and two thirds of NIFA employees have refused to relocate to Kansas City. Expect those numbers to fluctuate prior to September 30, 2019, the date that employees relocating must report to work. With the expected loss of NIFA employees, there will be work opportunities for graduates of our programs. Stay tuned.
- *Last time*: NERA’s goal this year, as part of the Northeast agenda, is to display at least one, high-definition photo on the scrolling banner on the NERA website. We’re still seeking shots.

### Informational items:

- The University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources has five new positions available including [IT Coordinator](#), FSNE Nutrition Educators (2) in [Calvert County](#) and [Prince George's County](#), [Coordinator of Organizational Policy and Compliance Programs](#), and [Director of the Wye-Hughes Centers](#). To view all position information, visit <https://www.nerasaes.org/employment>.
- *A repeat*: Northeast SARE is seeking an [Associate Director](#). The University of Vermont hosts the position located in an Extension office in South Burlington.
- *A repeat*: NIFA is hosting a Reporting Web Conference to share information about procedures associated with REEPort and the newly revised and updated Plan of Work on Thursday, August 8, 2019, from 2:00 to 3:30 PM (Eastern). Please visit the [Reporting Web Conference Series webpage](#) for more information.