



The agInnovation Northeast directors are scheduled to meet this Thursday, May 15 at 8:00 AM for a Zoom call. See the first action item.

“Networking is not about just connecting. It’s about connecting people with people, people with ideas, and people with opportunities.” – Michele Jennae (2013) in *The Connectworker: A Business Parable that Elevates Networking to a Whole New Dimension*. Michelle Jennae, Kindle Edition.

Action items:

- agInnovation Northeast directors are invited to join the newly implemented series of regional calls starting on May 15 at 8:00 AM. (Other meetings scheduled are shared in **Reminders/Updates**.) As a heads up, the [agenda and connection details](#) for 5/15 are posted on our website. One of the topics we will be discussing is “What’s happening in DC?” Curious? As a teaser, the photo collage in The Parting Shot, was taken at the recent NCFAR meeting in Washington. We’re hoping that “forging relationships” conveys a sense of optimism, a shot of which we all need.
- *One more time:* Now is a good time to register for the Joint Summer Session (agInnovation Northeast/NEED/CARET/Communicators) to be held in Princeton, NJ, on June 2-4, 2025. To make reservations, please call (609) 921-7500 and reference booking #29854, or [email Damiana Parada](#) at Rutgers University. As a heads up, the previously advertised room rate (\$189) is no longer guaranteed. [Information about the meeting](#) (including registration, lodging information, and agenda) is posted on the agInnovation Northeast website.
- If you have had grants cancelled, programs paused, or lost access to databases, we’d like to hear what program, what agency, the dollar amount of the loss, and/or the impact of the loss. [We’ve posted to our website](#), a summary that the North Central Region drafted in response to recent Executive Orders and Administrative Actions. Don’t hesitate to reach out with your reflections. [We’re here for you!](#)

Reminders/Updates:

- Rick attended the annual meeting of the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NCFAR, agInnovation Northeast is a member). We’ve posted on our [Reports/White Papers](#) page two documents that were used during the meeting: a congressional leave-behind and the NCFAR

appropriations request. Please give those a look.

- Here's a list of upcoming agInnovation Northeast virtual and face-to-face meetings: June 2-4, face-to-face (Joint Summer Meeting, Princeton, NJ); July 17, virtual; August 14, virtual; September 15-18, face-to-face (Joint agInnovation/ECOP/NEDA Meeting, St. Louis, MO); October 16, virtual; November 20, virtual; and December 11, virtual (regularly scheduled winter virtual meeting). Virtual meetings will run from 8-9 AM. Agendas and connection details will be sent to you prior to the meeting.
- We are seeking nominations for Administrative Advisers (AA) of several multistate activities: NECC2202: *Formal Structure for the Minor Use Animal Drug Program*, NE2220: *Multi-state Coordinated Evaluation of Grape Cultivars and Clones*, NEERA2104: *Northeast Region Technical Committee on Integrated Pest Management*, NE2338: *Weed Emergence in a Changing Climate*, NECC29: *Corn Improvement Conference*, NE2231: *Collaborative Potato Breeding and Variety Development Activities to Enhance Farm Sustainability in the Eastern US*, and NRSP Temp13: *Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Autonomy*. As a heads up, the former Administrative Adviser of these activities, Margaret Smith, has offered to provide a brief "status summary" to the new AAs that serve in these roles. If you're interested, [please contact Rick](#).
- We shared with the directors that the September 15-18 Joint agInnovation/ECOP/NEDA Meeting has been moved from Milwaukee, WI to St. Louis, MO. We'll share the meeting details with you as they become available.
- *Last time*: Each year a few of our multistate research projects terminate and do not renew. One of the projects that is not renewing is NE2045 *Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems: Assessing the Impact of Soil Variability and Climate Change*. We appreciate the contributions of the technical team! For business managers, this is a heads up on the closure of the project.

Informational items:

- The University of Guam is seeking an assistant/associate professor in Soil Science. The job description is [posted on the agInnovation NE website](#).
- The agInnovation Budget and Legislative Committee and Lewis-Burke Associates are hosting a series of informational calls to discuss new administration policies and activities affecting ag research at LGUs. All agInnovation members are invited to attend. The first call in this series will take place Wednesday, May 21 from 3:00-4:30 pm Eastern Time. Registration is not required, and connection details are as follows: <https://uwmadison.zoom.us/j/2726499338?pwd=IlmrhRR1mRsJC5ReG5Q0Xgwkm18z.1&omn=99970476194&from=addon>, password: NCRA2023!\$
- The National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA) is hosting a free webinar opportunity on Thursday, May 15 from 2:00-3:00 pm Eastern Time entitled *Navigating Change Conversation Series: New Administration Challenges: Next Steps for Your Institution*. [Registration](#) is required to join the webinar.

- *The forever green reminder:* In past newsletters, we've made a pitch for "station" photos for both the agInnovation Northeast website and **The Parting Shot**. We encourage you to share shots from your libraries as well as other image sources. Please [forward pictures to us](#) with a caption and a photo credit.

From the Archive:

- *The context:* We are submitting our nominations for agInnovation Excellence in Leadership, Northeast Excellence in Multistate Research, and Agricultural Research Innovation Award of Excellence. We keep a running tally of [past Excellence Award Winners](#) on the website. Check them out.

The Parting Shot:



Forging relationships: Rick Rhodes, agInnovation Northeast Executive Director, visiting with Congressman Frank Lucas (R-Oklahoma) outside the Committee of Agriculture Meeting Room, Longworth Building, Washington, DC (photos taken by Alton Thompson).

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

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