



The Spring meeting is just 7 weeks away; don't hesitate to register!

Action items:

- The votes are in from the electronic ballot sent on December 21st. 10 of 15 stations cast a vote. Issues that were addressed on the ballot included:
  - Ian Maw nomination for Northeast ESS Leadership Award.
    - Motion passes by simple majority
  - Rules of operation, change #1, reduce the number of NE stations from 15 to 14 (consolidate Cornell – Ithaca and Cornell NYSAES – Geneva).
    - Motion passes by 2/3 majority
  - Rules of operation, change #2, eliminate nomination committee.
    - Motion passes by 2/3 majority
  - Rules of operation, change #3, minor editorial corrections.
    - Motion passes by 2/3 majority
  
- The Spring meeting has a reading assignment and a reflection opportunity. The reading assignment is to peruse Bruce Tulgan's Not Everyone Gets a Trophy (Revised and Updated How to Manage Millennials.) It's available on Amazon (\$13.00 for Kindle edition, \$15.30 for hardcover or \$7.95 for paperback) and will be the backbone of a best practices conversation on "Managing millennials: new students, new staff, new faculty." Jan also asks that you reflect on how you use discretionary funding. We'll be doing a best practices session on using discretionary funding to support faculty and staff development. So, here are the points to ponder. The deployment of discretionary funds (any funds - state, federal, foundation or other that can be used for a purpose that you deem necessary) can be a powerful tool for assisting faculty and staff development. We ask that you consider the following discussion questions:
  - Do you have discretionary funds?
  - If you do have access to discretionary funds, what is the primary source of the funds?
  - Have you used those funds to assist faculty and staff development?
  - If yes, please provide examples of those best practices.
  - If no, what are the primary uses of your discretionary funds?
  - If you don't have access to discretionary funds, are there strategies that you might deploy to seek and secure those funds?
  
- The Spring meeting is being held concurrently with CARET/AHS. We seek your flexibility to work around visits to the Hill. As such, we ask that you keep Tuesday night (3/6) open for a NERA working dinner.

- We're expecting the Summer meeting website and registration portal will go live at the beginning of February. If you'd like to get a jump on reserving a room, you can contact the Bethany Beach Ocean Suites at 888-236-2427 (group block name is Northeast Joint Summer Session) or you can use this link: [Book your group rate for Northeastern Joint Summer Session](#). Room rates are \$279/night (6/2/2018 to 6/9/2018) plus 11% tax. We're on the beach!

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### *Reminders/Updates:*

- We're holding our annual spring meeting in conjunction with CARET/AHS. The CARET/AHS registration covers the NERA annual spring meeting registration. The website is open to register for CARET/AHS at <https://www.cvent.com/events/2018-joint-caret-ahs-meeting/registration-f45effbbc6e746bb8438d64c19f8927b.aspx?fqp=true>. Rooms at the Hilton can be reserved at [http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/D/DCANAHF-APL-20180303/index.html?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/D/DCANAHF-APL-20180303/index.html?WT.mc_id=POG).

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### *Informational items:*

- U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced a slate of Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Committee Appointees. State committees are selected by the Secretary, serve at the pleasure of the Secretary, and are responsible for carrying out FSA's farm programs within delegated authorities. Your FSA committee can be found at <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAOC/bulletins/1cf47d9>.
- The ARS has a leadership opportunity for a Director of the Western Regional Research Center (ARS-SES-2018-0015) in Albany, CA. Here's the job posting: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/488069000>.



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

[www.nerasaes.org](http://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

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