



Many thanks for joining the NERA Spring business meeting on March 9. The minutes for the meeting are now posted and there will be follow-up on the discussions of regional communications and infrastructure. We appreciate the vision of the NERA directors and the purpose of your engagement.

“Have a vision. Be demanding. Followers need to know where their leaders are taking them and for what purpose. Mission, goals, strategy, and vision are conventional terms to indicate what organizations set out to accomplish. These are excellent and useful words, but I have come to prefer another and I believe better term—*purpose*.” - Colin Powell, 2012. *In It Worked for Me: In Life and Leadership*. Harper Perennial, New York, NY.

Action items:

- The [minutes of the March 9, 2021](#) NERA Spring business meeting are posted. Check those out. In the upcoming week as a follow-up to the “communications conversation”, you’ll be receiving a survey to assess NERA’s interest and capabilities to deploy a regional communications effort.
- After the discussion of infrastructure during the March 9, 2015 NERA meeting, the NERA Executive Committee sent a letter on March 10, 2021 to the [APLU-BAA Agricultural Research Infrastructure Advocacy \(ARIA\) advisory group](#). The NERA Executive Committee met with the ARIA group on Friday, March 19 to discuss NERA’s concerns. The Executive Committee will be sharing with NERA, thoughts on infrastructure later this week. Stay tuned.

Reminders/Updates:

- The Experiment Station Section seeks nominations for the [National ESS Diversity and Inclusion Award](#). Please consider nominating individuals or teams from your station.
- NERA was a signatory on a letter to Federal appropriators advocating for increased discretionary allocations (302[a]) to support USDA programs. A [copy of the letter](#) is posted on the NERA website.
- We haven’t yet reached the 100% mark on pictures from every NERA member institution. Please share pictures of your institution and of scientists, staff and/or students engaged in research activities. We scroll the NERA pictures on the NERA website.

Informational items:

- NERA and NEED are continuing to plan a joint meeting on ecosystem services. In preparation for that symposium, the planning team proposes to assess the breadth of current Northeast ecosystem services. The planning team is now seeking a “fellow” to do the survey and to that end, the Northeast Ecosystem

Services Assessment Fellow position has been posted: <https://impact.extension.org/2021/03/19/northeast-ecosystem-services-assessment-fellow/>.

- Northeast SARE is accepting proposals for 2021 [Partnership Grants](#) and [Graduate Student Research Grants](#). Check them out.
- The APLU is seeking an [Assistant Vice President, Food Agriculture and Natural Resources \(FANR\) Communications and External Partnerships](#). This is the position that the Experiment Station Section in conjunction with the Administrative Heads Section and Cooperative Extension Section is supporting for a period of 2 years and will serve as the foundation for the system's communication and marketing effort.
- Colorado State University is seeking an [Assistant Vice President for Engagement and Extension and Deputy Director of CSU Extension](#). To view the job vacancy announcement and apply, click the link above.
- The University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources seeks your assistance filling two leadership positions: [Vice Provost of Academic Personnel and Inclusive Excellence, Academic Administrator Series](#) and [Vice Provost of Research and Extension, Academic Administrator Series](#).
- Iowa State University is seeking an Associate Dean for Research and Discovery (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences) and Associate Director of the Iowa Agriculture and Home Economics Experiment Station. [Click here to view the position description](#).
- The University of Vermont seeks two [postdoctoral researchers in Regenerative Agriculture](#). The postdocs will join a growing interdisciplinary research community focused on innovative farm practices, payments for ecosystem services, and farm viability in the U.S. Northeast.
- The University of Alaska Fairbanks is seeking a Director of the Institute of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Extension. [Click here to view the position description](#).
- The University of Georgia (Kennedy Mayfield-Smith, Alexa J. Lamm, Robert N. Stougaard) has prepared a report on [The Utilization of User Fees to Manage Research Facilities at Public and Land Grant Universities Survey Results](#).



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