

# Report and Recommendations

## NORTHEAST MULTISTATE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, July 27, 2022  
9:00-10:00 am ET Zoom Teleconference

**Members: Jan Nyrop (Cornell, chair), Matt Wilson (WVU), Puneet Srivastava (UMD), Jason White (CT-New Haven), Cindy Fitch (WVU/NEED), Ali Mitchell (NEED) [Ex officio: Rick Rhodes (NERA), David Leibovitz (NERA)]**

### **MAC decision:**

#### **Request to Write (requires MAC approval only)**

- NE1962: *Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Other Green Environments: Understanding Human and Community Benefits and Mechanisms*, 10/1/22-9/30/27. Submitted by Kathy Scholl – Northern Iowa and Peter Fix – Alaska-Fairbanks, AA: Matt Wilson – WVU. (A participation list is attached in NIMSS.)
  - 2022 Northeast Excellence in Multistate Research Award Winner. Nominated for national award and was encouraged to re-submit a nomination in the near future.
  - “1962” project number is retained to honor legislation passed in that year
  - The team is tight on time for renewal, but the AA is confident they can walk through the proposal workflow quickly and responsively.
  - The NE1962 request to write was approved unanimously by the MAC.

### **MAC recommendation:**

#### **Request to Approve Peer Reviewed Multistate Activities (MAC recommendations to NERA)**

- NE\_TEMP2231: *Collaborative Potato Breeding and Variety Development Activities to Enhance Farm Sustainability in the Eastern US*, 10/2022 – 09/2027 [Renewal of NE1731, AA: Mark Hutton – Maine]
  - Exceptionally well-written project.
  - Workflow is nicely supported by graphics.
  - All peer reviews were positive and provided excellent feedback.
  - Previous cycles of this project have been used to generate Multistate Research Fund Impact Statements.
  - **The MAC unanimously recommends to NERA the full project approval of NE\_TEMP2231.**

### **MAC Discussion:**

#### **Revisions of Multistate Guidelines (MAC recommendations to NERA)**

- Revisions to the *Northeastern Supplement to the Guidelines for Multistate Research Activities*, drafted by NERA Office of the Executive Director, July 2022
  - Changes to request to write requirements.
  - Changes in language to reflect NIMSS user experience.
    - NIMSS proposal format is reflected in the guidelines.
    - Request to write proposal submission process is tied back to NIMSS.
    - Finalized objectives and call for participants process is included.
  - Clarified roles, responsibilities, and action steps to reflect our practices.
    - Expanded definition of AA roles and responsibilities.
    - Expanded definition of Regional System Administrator.

- Newly defined role of Project Editors (technical leads).
- Revised peer review process language.
- NERA's final approval on multistate activities is reflected in the document. NIFA approval was removed.
- Changes to historical language that was either inaccurate or untrue.
- The guidelines should include language in reference to research-Extension integrated activity as part of the outreach component.
- **A motion to approve the edits as presented at this meeting was passed unanimously by the MAC. The marked up version of the guidelines will be shared with NERA as part of the MAC meeting materials.**
- **The revised guidelines will be imported to a Google Doc and the MAC is invited to comment and make edits collaboratively. The doc will be open for three weeks.**

***Administrative Adviser Assignments: Need for Replacement (MAC recommends to NERA)***

- Mark Hutton (Maine, former Assoc Director)
  - NE1731: *Collaborative Potato Breeding and Variety Development Activities to Enhance Farm Sustainability in the Eastern US*
  - NE1943: *Biology, Ecology & Management of Emerging Disease Vectors*
  - NE1944: *Management of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug*
  - NE2101: *Eastern White Pine Health and Responses to Environmental Changes*
- Brad Hillman (Rutgers, retired)
  - NE1833: *Biological Improvement of Chestnut through Technologies that Address Management of the Species and its Pathogens and Pests*
- Rick Rhodes (NERA Executive Director)
  - NECC1812: *Northeast Coordinating Committee on Soil Testing*

### ***Additional Discussion Items (as time allows)***

- Mid-term review process
- Teams with over one year since last meeting:
  - NE1749-Rural Econ, AA Peggy Brennan (last met 05/04/2021)
  - NE1836-Fruit Crop Storage, AA Chris Watkins (last met 08/09/2020)
  - NE1839-Eastern Broccoli, AA Jan Nyrop (last met 01/22/2021)
  - NE1943-Disease Vectors, AA Mark Hutton (last met 11/23/2020)
  - NECC29-Corn Improvement Conference, AA Margaret Smith (last met 02/21/2020)
  - NECC1702-Minor Use Animal Drug Program, AA Margaret Smith (last met 03/04/2020)
  - NECC1812-Soil Testing, AA Rick Rhodes (last met 10/08/2020)
- Teams which have not met:
  - NE1838- Development of a Weed Emergence Model, AA Margaret Smith (Start date of 10/1/2018)
  - NECC1700-Equine Clinical Studies, AA Rick Rhodes (Start date of 10/1/2017)
  - NECC1901-Molluscan Shellfish, AA Eric Wommack (Start date of 10/1/2019)

### ***Informational Items***

- Projects ending 09/30/2023 (up for renewal)
  - NE1832: Biological Control of Arthropod Pests and Weeds, AA Jan Nyrop-NY Geneva
  - NE1833: Biological Improvement of Chestnut, AA Brad Hillman-Rutgers
  - NE1834: Genetic Bases for Resistance and Immunity to Avian Diseases, AA Bob Taylor-WVU
  - NE1835: Resource Optimization in Controlled Environment Agriculture, AA Adel Shirmohammadi-MD
  - NE1836: Improving Quality and Reducing Losses in Specialty Fruit Crops through Storage Technologies, AA Chris Watkins-Cornell Extension
  - NE1838: Development of a Weed Emergence Model for the Northeastern United States, AA Margaret Smith-NY Ithaca
  - NE1839: Development and Evaluation of Broccoli Adapted to the Eastern US, AA Jan Nyrop-NY Geneva
  - NE1944: Management of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug, AA Mark Hutton-Maine
  - NE9: Conservation and Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources, AA Jan Nyrop-NY Geneva
  - NECC1812: Northeast Coordinating Committee on Soil Testing, AA Rick Rhodes-NERA
  - NECC29: Northeastern Corn Improvement Conference, AA Margaret Smith-NY Ithaca