



As we had shared in the last newsletter, we delayed this biweekly mailing to accommodate the Labor Day break. We hope that you all had the opportunity to refresh before diving into the fall semester.

The Joint ESS/CES Meeting is three weeks away. NERA will also be meeting in Baltimore; we look forward to seeing you all again.

“The crickets felt it was their duty to warn everybody that summertime cannot last forever.” – E. B. White (1952) in “Charlotte’s Web”, Harper and Brothers, New York.

Action items:

- This afternoon we [forwarded a note](#) from Bret Hess who is assisting ESCOP Chair Chris Pritsos on a branding exercise for the Experiment Station Section and ESCOP. Would you please review the concepts and view the video that explains the background to the concept? You’ll have an opportunity at the ESS Business Meeting to select which branding option you prefer and whether the Section should pursue trademarking the concept.
- Chris Pritsos has [shared](#) that the leadership of ESCOP and ACOP are considering a collaborative initiative to create AG-NGINE (Agriculture National Graduate Institutional Name Exchange), a national online database of prospective graduate students in the agricultural, natural resources, human, and related sciences. AG-NGINE is modeled on the successful Engineering National Graduate Institutional Name Exchange (ENGINE) established by the University of Florida’s Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering (<https://engine.eng.ufl.edu>). The purpose of AG-NGINE is to enhance graduate student recruitment and placement through facilitated exchange of prospective student information across institutions. Many institutions and graduate programs have the goal of increasing their pool of high-achieving students, domestic students (U.S. citizens and permanent residents), and those historically underrepresented in our disciplines. AG-NGINE can help in achieving those goals. The AG-NGINE concept will be discussed at the upcoming ESS business meeting in Baltimore.
- If you haven’t done so already, would you [please forward](#) your diversity, equity, and inclusion point of contact. The system is collecting your DEI contacts in an effort similar to the collection of your communications contacts.

Reminders/Updates:

- The [registration link](#) and [room reservation link](#) are open for the ESS/CES-NEDA meeting scheduled for September 25-28 at the Marriott Baltimore Waterfront. The theme for the meeting is “Building Trust” and the joint sessions will be dedicated to professional development. A draft of the meeting agenda is posted on the registration site. NERA will be meeting on the morning of September 28. The first 1.5 hr of our morning will be with NEED and follow-up on our work on the Northeast Agenda.

- Prior to the Joint ESS/CES-NEDA meeting on Sunday September 25 from 3:30-5:00 PM, ECOP and ESCOP are hosting a professional development session for new administrators. The session will feature pairs of AES/CE directors sharing the secret sauces of their collaboration and seasoned veterans discussing what they wish they knew when they first started their administrative positions. We encourage new NERA administrators to join.
- We have issued the [FY 2023 request for funding support](#) for grant applications (up to \$10,000 per application). Please encourage your faculty to take advantage of this opportunity. As a reminder, we have two ways to fund a proposal. NERA can transfer the award amount to your institution (for some institutions this poses challenges) or you can support the proposal with your institutional funds and we'll reduce your following years assessment by a like sum.

Informational items:

- Bread for World is hosting a webinar on September 9 from 11:30 AM- 1:30 PM ET on "[Increasing the Impact of Agricultural Research and Development](#)". The conversation will include lab leads, private sector representatives, NGOs, and Hill policy staff. Attendees will come away with insights on the importance of research on **nutrition, equity, and the environment** in the Farm Bill and Global Food Security Act (GFSA), needed actions for impact, and future conversations.
- Michigan State University (MSU) seeks a visionary and collaborative leader to serve in the newly created role of [Associate Vice President for Strategic Initiatives](#) (AVPRI).
- The Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP) seeks a highly skilled Executive Director to serve, guide, and report to ECOP in addressing its four core themes. This full-time National ECOP position is based in Washington, DC at APLU. For more information and to apply, visit: [Executive Director, Cooperative Extension System and Extension Committee on Organization and Policy](#).
- [Registration](#) is now open for the APLU's Annual Meeting in Denver, CO November 6-8, 2022. The theme for the meeting is "Future Forward".



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

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