



NERA News & Notes

Volume 4, Issue 1, September 2006

From the Office of the Executive Director

***Mark your Calendars!
November 8 at BWI Airport is the
Interview Date for the New ED***

The search for the new NERA Executive Director is well underway. It was widely publicized throughout the LGU system. A fly-in interview of the leading candidates will be held at the BWI Airport on November 8, 2006, from 10am to 3pm. All NERA directors are invited to attend. More information to follow.



***Let's Welcome these New Directors to the
NERA Family!***

Dr. Mark Robson became the new Director of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station on September 1. Mark is a Rutgers grad (under and Ph.D.), a distinguished environmental toxicologist, former NJ cooperative extension specialist, and comes to us most recently from a department chair position in the School of Public Health, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He lives close to the home farm, which his brother and dad still farm, in Burlington County, NJ.

Dr. Bradley Hillman was appointed Associate Director, NJAES and Director for Research in the NJAES effective July 1st, 2006. Brad is a distinguished plant pathologist/virologist who has been on the Rutgers faculty since the late 1980s.



***Full Steam Ahead on the Grantsmanship
Workshops!***

Tom Fretz and Western ED, Mike Harrington conducted two grantsmanship workshops recently: August 28 in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico at the invitation of AES Director Hector Santiago, and on September 7 in Washington, DC, in cooperation with CSREES and Virginia Tech.

Upcoming workshops:

- USDA-CSREES Grantsmanship Workshop
October 17-18, 2006
Dallas, TX
<http://aaes.uark.edu/csrees/index.html>
- 2006 North Central Region:
Integrated Programs Grantsmanship Workshop
November 8-9, 2006
Kansas City, MO

Over 45 applications were received for the travel grants for the Washington, DC workshop. Twenty awards were made. Of these, three were from minority-serving institutions in the Northeast: Two from The City University of New York and one from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.



New Committee and Advisor Assignments

Thanks to our Directors who agreed to take on these assignments:

2007 NERA Executive Committee:

Chair - Steve Goodwin (MA)

Vice-Chair - Robin Morgan (DE)

Officer-at-Large: Michael Vayda (VT)

Past Chair: Bruce McPheron (PA)

Multistate Activities Committee (MAC) member -
Tom Burr (NYC)

NERA Representative to the Northeast Regional Center
for Rural Development - Margaret Brennan (NJ)

ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee member -
Cameron Hackney (WV)

ESCOP Communication and Marketing Committee
member - Richard Rhodes III (RI)

NRSP Review Committee member - Bill Vinson (WV)

Advisor to NE1013, Mechanisms of Plant Responses
to Ozone in the Northeastern US - Michael Hoffman
(NYC)

Advisor to NE1014, Development of New Potato
Clones for Improved Pest Resistance, Marketability and
Sustainability in the East - Kirby Stafford (CTNH)

Regional Advisor to NRSP3, The National
Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) - Mark
Robson (NJ)

Multistate Projects Terminating in 2006 and Their Status

NE167 – Family Business Viability in Economically
Vulnerable Communities

**The new project is NC1030: Family Firms and
Policy (NE167)**

NE1000 – Improved Weed Control Through Residue
Management and Crop Rotation

**The new project is NE1026: Weed Management
Strategies for Sustainable Cropping Systems (10/
2006 to 9/2011).**

NE1005 - Management of Wildlife Damage in
Suburban and Rural Landscapes will terminate as
scheduled.

NE1006 - Eradication, Containment and/or
Management of Plum Pox Disease (Sharka).

The project will terminate as scheduled. Interested
scientists were encouraged to join **the new project
WERA-0020- Virus and Virus Like Diseases of
Fruit trees, Small fruits and Grapevines (10/2006
to 9/2011).**

NECC63 - Research Committee on Commodity
Promotion. **The new project is approved and will
retain the old number NECC63 (10/2006 to 9/
2011).**

NEERA1000-Northeast Pasture Research and
Extension Consortium. The new project is approved
and will retain the old number **NEERA1000-
Northeast Pasture Consortium (10/2006 to 9/
2011)**

NEREAP3 - The Northeast Regional Center for
Integrated Pest Management (NE IPM).

**The new project is NEERA1001-The Northeast
Committee for Integrated Pest Management (NE
IPM) (10/2006 to 9/2011).**

The following coordinating committees will terminate on Sept.30, 2006:

NEC1000 - The Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development

NEC1004 - The Northeastern Regional Aquaculture Center

NEC1005 - The Northeast Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SARE)



Multistate Projects Scheduled to Terminate in 2007

NE1007 - Ovarian and Environmental Influences on Embryonic/Fetal Mortality in Ruminants

NE1008 - Assuring Fruit and Vegetable Product Quality and Safety Through the Handling and Marketing Chain

NE1009 - Mastitis Resistance to Enhance Dairy Food Safety

NE1011 - Rural Communities, Rural Labor Markets and Public Policy

NE1012 - Sustaining Local Food Systems in a Globalizing Environment: Forces, Responses, Impacts

NE1013 - Mechanisms of Plant Responses to Ozone in the Northeastern US

NE1014 - Development of New Potato Clones for Improved Resistance, Marketability, and Sustainability in the East.

If any of the above will undergo revision, renewal or extension, please refer to the recommended timeline for 2007.



Procedure for New Proposals and Recommended Timeline in 2007

1. By end November 2006 - Submit Request to Write a Proposal (**MAC will review and approve requests electronically**). Technical committees will proceed with writing the full proposal upon receiving the approval from MAC.

2. March 2, 2007- Submit proposals that have undergone peer-review by not less than 3 reviewers, and with complete Appendix E's . Requests for extension, if deemed necessary to complete project objectives, should be submitted at this time. A project can only be granted a one-time extension, ***usually for one, but not more than two years.*** (Reference: NE Supplementary Guidelines)

3. March 26, 2007 - NERA approves MAC's recommendations. Unsatisfactory proposals will be returned for rewriting.

4. June 15, 2007 - Last chance to resubmit proposal for MAC review having incorporated and addressed MAC's concerns and comments.

The Fall deadline was not included, as that is always deemed too late to submit proposals for timely approval by CSREES. Note that CSREES needs 2-3 weeks to review and approve proposals.

Please use NIMSS to complete the steps above. If you need assistance at any stage of the process, please contact Rubie Mize at rgmize@umd.edu or 301-504-8655.



NERA Website

The NERA website <http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/> has a new look and feel and is frequently updated. If there are links you want added or corrections you might encounter, please contact Rubie Mize at rgmize@umd.edu

Here are some useful websites:

Everything you need to know about CREATE-21:
<http://www.create-21.org/>

2006 Fall Experiment Station Section Meeting:
<http://www.ag.unr.edu/naes/ESS2006.htm>

References for Plant Germplasm Workshop - ESS Meeting, Sept. 26, 2006:
<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/GermplasmESSSept2006/>

USDA-CSREES Grantsmanship Workshops:
<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/training/cpworkshops.html>

