

Partnering for Success

“A New Culture for Agriculture”

North Atlantic Area Leadership Conference Agenda
 Tuesday, April 27th through Thursday, April 29th

Start	End	
Tuesday, April 27th, 2010		
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.		Opening Session - Future Trends in Agriculture <i>Moderator: Dariusz Swietlik, Area Director, North Atlantic Area, ARS</i>
8:00 a.m.	8:10 a.m.	Welcome to Leadership Conference and Introductions <i>Dariusz Swietlik, Area Director, North Atlantic Area, ARS</i> Welcome to Ithaca <i>Leon Kochian, Research Leader/Center Director; Ithaca, NY; North Atlantic Area; ARS</i>
8:10 a.m.	8:40 a.m.	The Farm Bill and Reorganization of REE: Impact on Agricultural Research in the U.S. <i>Molly Jahn, Acting Under Secretary of Agriculture, REE</i>
8:40 a.m.	9:10 a.m.	Current Challenges and Opportunities for ARS <i>Ed Knipling, Administrator, Agricultural Research Service</i>
9:10 a.m.	9:35 a.m.	State of the North Atlantic Area: Management and Leadership Vision <i>Dariusz Swietlik, Area Director, North Atlantic Area, ARS</i>
9:35 a.m.	9:45 a.m.	General Discussion
9:45 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.		The President's/Department's Priority Areas for Agricultural Research <i>Moderator: Shu-I Tu, Associate Area Director, North Atlantic Area, ARS</i>
10:15 a.m.	10:40 a.m.	Food Safety and Nutrition (via teleconference) <i>Molly Kretsch, Deputy Administrator, Nutrition, Food Safety and Quality, ARS</i>
10:40 a.m.	11:05 a.m.	Biofuels and Urban/Local Foods – Agriculture <i>Jeff Steiner, National Program Leader, Integrated Agricultural Systems, ARS, ONP</i>
11:05 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	Climate Change and Global Food Security <i>Steve Shafer, Deputy Administrator, Natural Resources and Sustainable Agricultural Systems, ARS, HQ</i>
11:30 a.m.	11:50 p.m.	Impact of REE Organization on University Research <i>Susan Henry, Dean, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, Cornell University</i>
11:50 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	General Discussion
12:00 p.m.	1:15 p.m.	Lunch – North Star Dining, Appel Commons
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.		Extramural Funding Session I The New Partnership for ARS Extramural Funding/Technology Transfer <i>Moderator: Leon Kochian, Research Leader/Center Director; Ithaca, NY; North Atlantic Area; ARS</i>
1:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	Perspective on Extramural Funding Challenges <i>Rick Brenner, Assistant Administrator, Technology Transfer, ARS, HQ</i>
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.		Extramural Funding Session II Focus on Successful Grantsmanship <i>Moderator: Donna Gibson, Research Leader; Ithaca, NY; North Atlantic Area; ARS</i>

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Tuesday, April 27th, 2010 (continued)					
2:30 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	Presentations by North Atlantic Area Scientists (reasons for successful proposals – not specific science) Followed by Panel Discussion/Question and Answer Session			
		<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"> Stewart Gray NIFA/SCRI </td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"> Leon Kochian NIFA/NSF </td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"> Ed Buckler DOE/NSF Plant Genome </td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"> Michael Glenn CRADAs/Commodity Groups/Interagency </td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"> Jim Giovanonni NSF </td> </tr> </table>	Stewart Gray NIFA/SCRI	Leon Kochian NIFA/NSF	Ed Buckler DOE/NSF Plant Genome
Stewart Gray NIFA/SCRI	Leon Kochian NIFA/NSF	Ed Buckler DOE/NSF Plant Genome	Michael Glenn CRADAs/Commodity Groups/Interagency	Jim Giovanonni NSF	
3:30 p.m.	3:50 p.m.	Break			
3:50 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	Extramural Funding Session III Positioning for a Successful Transition Results and Discussion from Pre-work Assignments: “What issues will we face as we transition into an Agency with increased emphasis on external funding?” “What issues have been identified at other Area Leadership Conferences?” <i>Moderator: Wayne Honeycutt, Research Leader, Orono, ME, North Atlantic Area, ARS;</i> <i>Facilitator: Lisa Nabors, Professional Certified Coach, Strategic Performance Group</i>			
5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	Visits to Cornell University and Ithaca Labs			
6:00 p.m.		Dinner on your Own			
Wednesday, April 28th, 2010					
8:00 a.m.	8:15 a.m.	Extramural Funding Session IV Positioning for a Successful Transition (continued) Review of Issues and Charge to the Group <i>Facilitator: Lisa Nabors, Professional Certified Coach, Strategic Performance Group</i>			
8:15 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	Breakout Question For each issue identified, what specifically can be done and by whom?			
10:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	Break			
10:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	Group Reports, Questions, Discussion <i>Facilitator: Lisa Nabors, Professional Certified Coach, Strategic Performance Group</i>			
11:00 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	Identification and Assignment of Action Items			
11:30 a.m.	12:45 p.m.	Lunch – North Star Dining, Appel Commons			
1:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.		Effectively Communicating the ARS Message <i>Moderator: Kevin Hicks, Research Leader, Eastern Regional Research Center, North Atlantic Area, ARS</i>			
1:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	Project Plans: How Are We Faring? <i>Ed Cleveland, Director; Southern Regional Research Center; New Orleans, LA</i>			

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Wednesday, April 28th, 2010 (continued)			
1:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.		Panel – Effective Communication	
1:30 p.m.	1:45 p.m.	Importance of Annual Reports as a Reporting Structure <i>Steve Shafer, Deputy Administrator, Natural Resources and Sustainable Agricultural Systems, ARS, HQ</i>	
1:45 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	Publicizing Research to the General Public <i>Sandy Miller-Hays, Director, Information Staff, ARS, HQ</i>	
2:00 p.m.	2:15 p.m.	Communicating with Political Bodies <i>David Kelly, Program Analyst, Budget and Program Management</i>	
2:15 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	How Does a University News Staff Promote Research? <i>Blaine Friedlander, Public Relations, Office of Communications, Cornell University</i>	
2:30 p.m.	2:45 p.m.	General Questions for the Panel	
2:45 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	Break	
3:00 p.m.	3:20 p.m.	Human Capital Management and Development I <i>Moderator: Jim Bradley, Deputy Administrator, AFM, ARS, HQ</i>	
		Changes in Hiring Practices and Processes <i>Kit Hoyle, Deputy Director, Human Resources Division, ARS, HQ</i>	
3:20 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	Move to Research Leader and Administrative Officer Group Sessions	
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.		Research Leader Sessions	Administrative Officer Sessions
		Human Capital Management & Development II <i>Moderator: Wayne Honeycutt, Research Leader</i>	Administrative Management I <i>Moderator: Jan Hanover, Administrative Officer</i>
3:30 p.m.	3:50 p.m.	New Performance Standards/Evaluations <i>Shu-I Tu, Associate Area Director, NAA</i>	Facilitating More Efficient Communication Paths in ARS Open Discussion
3:50 p.m.	4:05 p.m.	SY Retention <i>Shu-I Tu, Associate Area Director, NAA</i>	
4:05 p.m.	4:20 p.m.	Mentorship and Scientist Development <i>Dariusz Swietlik, Area Director, NAA</i>	
3:50 p.m.	4:25 p.m.		ARMP Development and Process for FY 2011 <i>Carlos Santoyo, Deputy Area Director, NAA</i>
4:20 p.m.	4:35 p.m.	RLAC Presentation <i>Donna Gibson, Research Leader, Ithaca, NY</i>	
4:25 p.m.	5:00 p.m.		Financial Management Modernization Initiative <i>Lisa Baldus, Deputy Area Director, ARS, HQ</i>
4:35 p.m.	4:45 p.m.	RPES/Supergrade Updates <i>Donna Gibson, Research Leader, Ithaca, NY</i>	
4:45 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	Time for Questions	

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6:30 p.m.		Dinner Banquet at Hilton Garden Inn Research and Productivity in the Global Agricultural Economy Keynote Speaker: Keith Fuglie, Branch Chief, Resource and Rural Economics Division, ERS
Thursday, April 29th, 2010		
8:00 a.m. to 9:35 a.m.		Administrative Management II Moderator: Carlos Santoyo, Deputy Area Director, North Atlantic Area, ARS
8:00 a.m.	8:25 a.m.	Agricultural Research Service Budget Mike Arnold, Director, Budget and Program Management Staff, ARS, HQ
8:25 a.m.	8:50 a.m.	Integration of Administrative and Financial Management with Research Mission Areas Jim Bradley, Deputy Administrator, AFM, ARS, HQ
8:50 a.m.	9:05 a.m.	Research Leaders and Administrative Officers as Business Partners Carlos Santoyo, Deputy Area Director, North Atlantic Area, ARS
9:05 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	North Atlantic Area Safety, Health, and Environmental Issues Bonnie DiSalvo, Supervisory Safety and Occupational Health Manager, NAA, ARS
9:15 a.m.	9:35 a.m.	New Permit Guidelines John Jensen, Director, Radiological Safety Division
9:35 a.m.	9:5 a.m.	North Atlantic Area Institutional Biosafety Committee Caird Rexroad III, Center Director & Research Leader, Leetown, WV, NAA, ARS
9:45 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	Break
10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.		Human Capital Development II Moderator: Benne Marmer, ODEO Program Manager, North Atlantic Area, ARS
10:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	Managing a Diverse Workforce Guidelines for leaders who are successful at managing diversity in the workplace Alan Robinson, Human Resources Specialist, ARS, HQ Don McLellan, Director, Office of Outreach, Diversity, and Equal Opportunity, ARS, HQ
10:30 a.m.	11:45 a.m.	Crucial Conversations/Crucial Confrontations Jeff Schmitt, Alternative Dispute Resolution Program Specialist
11:45 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	Final Summaries of the Leadership Meeting/Farewell Dariusz Swietlik, Area Director, North Atlantic Area, ARS
12:00 p.m.		Dismissal

North Atlantic Area Leadership Meeting Committee:

Donna Gibson, Chair; Research Leader; Ithaca, NY
 Dariusz Swietlik, Area Director; North Atlantic Area; Wyndmoor, PA
 Wayne Honeycutt, Research Leader; Orono, ME
 Kevin Hicks, Research Leader; ERRC; Wyndmoor, PA
 Shu-I Tu, Associate Area Director; North Atlantic Area Office; Wyndmoor, PA
 Carlos Santoyo, Deputy Area Director; North Atlantic Area Office;
 Wyndmoor, PA
 Donita Gibboney, Administrative Officer; University Park, PA

Benne Marmer, ODEO Program Manager; North Atlantic Area Office;
 Wyndmoor, PA
 Jan Hanover, Administrative Officer; PIADC, NY
 Diane Koch, Executive Assistant; North Atlantic Area Office; Wyndmoor, PA