

## Northeast Food Systems; Water Quality; and Energy

April 2011

### Charge:

1. Develop a strong CAP's grant proposal around the area of specialty crops that builds on the competitive advantage of the Northeast states.
2. Engage the Northeast land-grant universities and other potential partners in defining a comprehensive proposal that combines strengths in local food systems, ethnic and other niche markets, Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), global food security, sustainability, and human nutrition.
3. The proposal should have a strong component on the human dimensions associations with adoption of local food systems.
4. The team should also consider supply chain issues, agro-tourism possibilities, rural development, network science, demographic shifts, food deserts, and urban-rural connections.
5. The proposal should be developed with extension as the lead but include strong research and/or resident education objectives.

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**NY Cornell University**

**Dr. Anu Rangarajan** – extensive experience in food systems approaches. Has worked hard to connect producers with markets in New York City, particularly with specialty ethnic crops. Has secured large grants and works well as a collaborator. Runs the small farms program.

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**Dr. Margaret E. Smith** – has extensive extension experience, served as an Associate Director for Cornell Cooperative Extension for a few years and is now half time with the experiment station and half time in her department as the Department Extension Leader. Excellent team player. Has also been involved in a large proposal to fund “food systems” research.

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**Mr. Ken Schlather** – is the Executive Director for Cornell Cooperative Extension in Tompkins County. He has strong interests in food systems and has encouraged and enabled very innovative food systems programs in his county office.

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