

From: Chris Callahan [<mailto:chris.callahan@uvm.edu>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2015 9:54 AM

To: Bull, Nancy

Subject: RE: SUMMARY REPORT - RE: Northeast Regional Post-Harvest Research Meeting - 1/29
Amherst, MA

Hi Nancy,

The big update is that I am leading a regional proposal for a NE Regional FDA Food Safety Center (3 years, ~\$1 million, 13 states). That proposal and my lead of it came directly out of this NEED/NERA planning grant and the activities and networking it has supported. The “region” defined by FDA spans from Maine to West Virginia following the NEED/NERA region. We started out with three LOI’s / Proposal Outlines and partially as a result of coordination and track record stemming from the nascent group formed in our planning grant a collaborative proposal plan was achieved. There are four PI’s on the proposal with myself as lead (VT), and Amanda Kinchla (MA), Betsy Bihn (NY), Luke Laborde (PA) and Chris Walsh (MD) as co-PI’s. So we have a single proposal going in representing all APLU/Extension folks in the region rather than competing proposals. We are not sure if there are other proposals from private or other NFP’s going in. But the collaboration ahead of the proposal has led to what we feel will be a strong position for ours and improved networking among the group in general.

My hope for the proposed project is that it furthers our regional collaboration in post-harvest using food safety as our seed topic. I think the “food safety” center may grow in scope eventually to include other topics or lead to other aligned centers being developed and further leveraging resources in the region through collaboration.

You did approve the communications expense previously and I executed on that. It has been instrumental to keeping the group together and to supporting our FDA proposal. I have some funds remaining and may see about extending that subscription another year as it is really helpful. If you have any concerns about that, please let me know.

-Chris