

**Regional Executive Directors, Executive Administrators and Assistant Directors/Coordinators
for Extension and Research
Contact List (May 2021)**

Regional Executive Directors and Administrators (EDAs) from the six regions (North Central, Northeast, South, West, 1890 region, 1994 Region), and a National Tribal Consortium work with and for the directors of the Extension Service and research in designated regions, and institutional leadership (see images). These associations reflect the three types of Land-grant Institutions (LGUs) commonly referred to as 1862 (four regions), 1890 (one region) and 1994 Region (one region) referencing when federal legislation was enacted. EDAs are employees of the regional/national associations with regional (primary) and national (secondary) responsibilities. In general, their roles are communication, facilitation, promotion, and collaboration within and across states in their region and across regions, support and leadership to various regional and national committees and groups, multistate research projects (managed by 1862 research associations), team building, and creating leadership opportunities to their member institutions. Any EDA can serve as a trusted resource and as a mechanism to engage with states and Tribes on mutual interest initiatives and topics to NIFA leadership and staff.

North Central Region

North Central Cooperative Extension Association (NCCEA)

(<http://www.nccea.org/>)

Robin Shepard, PhD
413 Extension Admin Bldg
432 North Lake Street
University of Wisconsin – Madison
Madison, WI 53706-1498
608-890-2688 (office)
608-358-8768 (cell)
robin.shepard@wisc.edu

Travis Olson, MS
413 Extension Admin Bldg
432 North Lake Street
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Madison, WI 53706-1498
(608) 262-1748 (office)
travis.olson@wisc.edu



North Central Regional Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (NCRA)

(<https://www.ncra-saes.org/>)

Jeff Jacobsen, PhD
446 West Circle Drive Room 109H
Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824
517-884-7965 (office)
517-388-3794 (cell)
jjacobsn@msu.edu

Chris Hamilton, MS
1450 Linden Drive Room 216
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Madison, WI 53706
608-262-2349 (office)
484-716-7645 (cell)
christina.hamilton@wisc.edu

Northeast Region

Northeast Extension Directors (NEED)

(<https://northeastextension.org/>)

Ali Mitchell, MPA/MPP
50 Water Street
Warren, RI 02885
401-682-7297 (office)
561-352-8817 (cell)
amitchell@northeastextension.org

Kayce Florio
50 Water Street
Warren, RI 02885
401-396-4034 (office)
kflorio@northeastextension.org



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (NERA)

(<https://www.nerasaes.org/>)

Richard (Rick) C. Rhodes III, PhD
Aquaculture Center
University of Rhode Island
14 East Farm Road Room 110
Kingston, RI 02881
401-874-2468 (office)
401-742-0479 (cell)
rcrhodes@uri.edu

David Leibovitz, BS
Aquaculture Center
University of Rhode Island
14 East Farm Road Room 111
Kingston, RI 02881
401-874-4801 (office)
401-742-4069 (cell)
david_leibovitz@uri.edu

South Region

Association of Southern Region Extension Directors (ASRED)

(<http://asred.msstate.edu/>)

Ronald (Ron) Brown, PhD
410 Bost Extension Building Box 9656
Mississippi State University
Mississippi State, MS 39762
662-325-0644 (office)
662-617-4672 (cell)
rab2@msstate.edu

N.A.



Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (SAAESD)

(<https://saaesd.org/>)

Gary A. Thompson, PhD
2549 North Hatch Avenue
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72704
479-502-9707 (office)
814-380-3295 (cell)
gat009@uark.edu

Cindy Morley, BA
2549 North Hatch Avenue
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72704
479-502-9545 (office)
479-422-1405 (cell)
cmorley@uark.edu

West Region

Western Extension Directors Association (WEDA)

(<https://weda.extension.oregonstate.edu/>)

Lyla Hougum, PhD
108E Ballard Hall
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331-3606
541-737-9920 (office)
lyla.hougum@oregonstate.edu

N.A.



Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station (WAAESD)

(<https://www.waaesd.org/>)

Bret Hess, PhD
5890 Britannia Drive
Reno, NV 89523
307-760-3319 (cell)
bhess@unr.edu

Saige Zespy, BS
360 South Forest Drive
Casper, WY 82609
307-254-2473 (cell)
saige.zespy@gmail.com

1890 Region

Association of Extension Administrators (AEA)

(<http://1890aea.org/>)

Albert E. Essel, PhD
1601 East Market Street
North Carolina A&T State University
Greensboro, NC 27411
336-965-2257 (office)
336-965-2270 (cell)
aeessel@ncat.edu

N.A.



Association of 1890 Research Directors (ARD)

(<https://www.umes.edu/ARD/>)

Alton Thompson, PhD
1601 East Market Street
North Carolina A&T State University
Greensboro, NC 27411
336-285-2955 (office)
336-404-0486 (cell)
athompson1@ncat.edu

N.A.

1994 Region and National Tribal Consortium

John L. Phillips, PhD
First Americans Land Grant Consortium (FALCON)
1040 Creekstone Lane
Bishop, GA 30621
706-310-4199 (office)
jphillips@aihec.org
www.falcontribalcollege.org



American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC)
Carrie Billy, President and CEO, JD
121 Oronoco Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-838-0400 (office)
aihec@aihec.org

