



Dear NED-APS members and colleagues in the Northeast,

You are cordially invited to attend **the 76th Annual Meeting of the Northeast Division of APS, which will be held on** October 19-21, 2016 at the Hotel Ithaca in Ithaca, NY.

This year, options for **pre-meeting tours** include a visit to the BAAR Agricultural Research Farm in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York. The privately operated BAAR Agricultural Research Farm is a 40-acre site dedicated to applied agricultural research and the collection of independent data for industry. A planned stop at a vineyard and winery and discussions on the management of grape diseases should interest all. A second tour will highlight some of the Cornell Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology Section facilities on the Ithaca Campus, including the Northeast Regional Hub Lab of the National Plant Diagnostic Network, Liberty Hyde Bailey Conservatory, Plant Transformation Facility, Boyce Thompson Institute, and Cornell Plantations. Additionally, on Tuesday, the day before the start of the NED-APS meeting, the Northeast Forest Pathology Workshop will tour a variety of forest sites around the Ithaca area to view current forest health issues affecting trees in the region. On this all-day tour, discussions at each site will emphasize disease-causing pathogens and their interaction with insect pests and abiotic stresses.

Wednesday's tours will return in time for the **Extension and Industry Meeting** on the afternoon of Wednesday, October 19th from 1 to 5 pm. All NED members are invited to attend to discuss hot topics and share industry-related news and extension activities with the entire group. This meeting is a great way to catch up with colleagues and find out what's going on in the Northeast region.

The **symposium** for this year's annual meeting is entitled: "From Sequences to Disease Management: Taking What We Learn at the Bench to the Field." Join us Thursday morning as we learn from experts about some exciting applications of molecular and cellular biology to real-world problems in phytopathology.

As in years past, a **Graduate Student Oral Presentation Competition** will be held at this year's meeting, and we strongly encourage faculty to support their students in attending and contributing to the meeting. Our Graduate Student Awards competition is a great opportunity for students to share their research efforts and hone their speaking skills in a relaxed atmosphere. The travel award for the winner has been increased to \$1,000! Students can sign up for the competition when they register to attend the meeting.

Also of interest to our Division graduate students and other young professionals is the **Careers 101 workshop** series, led by Dr. William Schneider, that was such a hit at the January NEPPS meeting in Philadelphia. One workshop covers preparing CVs and cover letters for jobs of all levels in academia, industry and government positions, with an emphasis on tailoring your application for the job advertisement. Another workshop covers preparing and handling an interview. A hands-on component will give participants a chance to practice interviewing skills. Seating may be limited for these workshops, so those who are interested should be sure to register for the meeting, and these workshops, as soon as possible.

Nominations for our **Early Career** and **Merit Awards** are currently being sought by the Awards Committee. If you know of a deserving individual please visit the NED-APS web page (<http://www.apsnet.org/members/divisions/ne/Pages/Awards.aspx>) for more information. We like to do our best in honoring those who have dedicated their careers and served our Division and region with distinction over the years as well as recognize those who will make our Division stronger in the future.

If you are interesting in sponsoring the social, a break, or meal at the conference, and/or helping to contribute to this exciting program, please contact me by email or by phone anytime at 207-554-4373.

Looking forward to see you all this coming fall!

Sincerely,

Steve Johnson
President, NED-APS Division