

Kate Lewis, NAREEE Board Executive Director

Kate joined the Office of the Chief Scientist in October 2020 as the Executive Director of the NAREEE (National Agriculture Research, Extension, Education, and Economics) Board, a Federal Advisory Committee. She serves as the Designated Federal Official (DFO) of the Board, whose members represent farm organizations and cooperatives, commodity organizations, human nutrition and food science, land grant and other universities, and forestry and conservation groups. The Board and its three Subcommittees advise the Secretary and the Department on issues of high relevance to the science of USDA.

Prior to her work in OCS, Kate was a management analyst for the Farm Bill mandated Biobased Markets Program (BioPreferred Program). She managed the development, marketing/sales, purchasing and evaluation of biobased products for the federal, commercial and consumer sectors to advance the market for renewable ingredients and finished bioproducts made from agricultural materials. She pioneered the development of, and led the implementation of, a voluntary biobased product certification and labeling effort launched by USDA in 2011.

Previously, Kate was an environmental protection specialist for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ENERGY STAR Program. She spent 14 years at EPA initiating, growing and evaluating the ENERGY STAR brand on commercial and consumer products. She began her work in the energy and environmental arena as a technical writer for an engineering consulting firm.

Kate has a BA degree in Rhetoric and Communications from the University of Virginia.

Shirley Morgan-Jordan, Program Support Coordinator

Shirley Morgan-Jordan has 30+ years of Federal Government experience working in several agencies. Currently she works as the Administrative Assistant for The National Agriculture Research, Extension, Education, and Economics (NAREEE) Advisory Board Office at The U.S. Department of Agriculture. She provides support to four congressionally mandated Advisory Boards; independently orchestrates 52+ meetings per year; to include planning conference calls, selection of panelists, speakers, recorders, and facilitators. She advises Executive Director/Senior leaders on emerging issues or needs, possible risk and barriers, and the benefits and disadvantages of different courses of action to be taken concerning the board when needed. Develop quality reports and other information materials to educate Congress, Senate, Board members, and other supporting Agricultural officials by posting relevant documents related to petitions, technical reviews, nominations, and other pertinent information in website. Works closely with DFO to prepare packages/memos, ethics collection of 450s, attend Ethics/FACA Training staying abreast of committee changes. Write/manage contract agreements of highly specialized data dealing with the Board; monitor contract performance and determine contract termination and a host of other duties. She exercises tact, initiative, and original thinking in furnishing information to Board for use in their publications and annual reports.