**NEBC 2015 Conference Schedule**

**Friday, June 5**

5:00pm-7:00pm  
Reception at Smith College Greenhouses

**Saturday, June 6**

Check-In at Wright Hall beginning at 8am  
Light refreshments available

9:00am-10:30am  
Oral Presentations in Weinstein Auditorium (Wright Hall) and McConnell Hall

10:30am-10:45am  
Coffee Break

10:45am-11:50am  
Oral Presentations in Weinstein Auditorium (Wright Hall) and McConnell Hall

12 noon-1:30pm  
Lunch  
Poster session featuring botanical research (Neilson Library Browsing Room)  
Exhibit tables by botanical organizations (Neilson Library Browsing Room)

1:30pm-2:30pm: Keynote Address  
Dr. Pamela Diggle  
Editor-in-Chief, American Journal of Botany  
Past President, Botanical Society of America  
Website: [http://diggle.lab.uconn.edu/](http://diggle.lab.uconn.edu/)

"Learned Societies" -- Past, Present, and Future?  
The formation of "learned societies" began in the mid-17th century and played a central role in the establishment and practice of modern science. I will explore the history and evolution of learned societies from the establishment of the Royal Society for the Improvement of Natural Knowledge in London in 1663 and the American Philosophical Society in pre-revolutionary Philadelphia, to the emergence of the diverse "professional and regional societies" of today. From their very inception as venues for conversation and presentation of new ideas, learned societies have played, and continue to play, essential roles in fostering scholarly interactions and communication, and in disseminating research. I will conclude by considering the future relevance of learned societies in our increasingly digital age. Given that we can all upload our talks to YouTube, download publications instantaneously, and be in constant contact via multiple electronic means, why have we come to this meeting? And what does the future hold for learned societies, such as those invited to this conference.

2:40pm-3:50pm  
Oral Presentations in Weinstein Auditorium (Wright Hall) and McConnell Hall

3:50pm-4:25pm  
Cake Break to celebrate New England Botanical Club’s 120th Anniversary

4:30pm-5:10pm  
Oral Presentations in Weinstein Auditorium (Wright Hall) and McConnell Hall

5:15pm-5:30pm  
Wrap-up and announcements

**Sunday, June 7**

9am-11:00am  
Brainstorm Meeting at MacLeish Field Station  
Brainstorm meeting: Ensuring the future of botanical organizations.  
(Limited to 25 active members/leaders of botanical organizations)

10am-3:00pm  
Botanical Forays  
Field Trips (for registered conference attendees only) - deadline to choose May 5th  
All except MacLeish field trip leave from Smith College Parking Garage  
Bag lunch provided