



The 1117th meeting of the New England Botanical Club, Inc. will be held Friday, **3 March 2017, at 6:45 p.m.** in Haller Lecture Hall (room 102), Geological Museum, 24 Oxford St., Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.



**“Creating and Leveraging a Virtual Herbarium of New England
for Biodiversity Science”**
By
Dr. Charles Davis
**Professor of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology and
Curator of Vascular Plants, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA**

PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) **CHARLES DAVIS’ ABSTRACT:** In 24 months the Harvard University Herbaria imaged and databased all of its New England vascular plants, including over 330,000 specimens. These resources are now fully mobilized and available online and accessible to the world for scientific research and education. I will discuss the planning and implementation of this monumental effort, and the use of this virtual herbarium for global change research. In particular, I will outline the validation of herbarium specimens for phenological investigation, and discuss software we designed with computer scientists to leverage crowdsourcing to harvest these data from specimens.
- 2) **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2017 RECIPIENTS OF LES MEHRHOFF BOTANICAL RESEARCH FUNDS:**
 - **Dorothy Allard with Arthur Gilman, Ruth Hagerman, Aaron Marcus, Erika Mitchell, Matthew Peters, Anne Reed, Eric Sorenson, Elizabeth Thompson, and Hilda White** for their project titled "A Targeted Search for New, Rare and Historically Known Bryophyte Species in Vermont: Ephemeral Wetlands, Alpine Summits and Acidic Cliffs"
 - **Danny Haelwaters** for his project titled "A survey of *Russula* species (Fungi, Basidiomycota, Agaricomycetes) at the Boston Harbor Islands National Park area, Massachusetts"
 - **Ya Min** for her project titled "Unveiling the Karyotypes of New England *Utricularia* Species"
 - **Morgan W. Southgate** for her project titled "Ecological Niche Differentiation of the *Adiantum pedatum* complex in the Green Mountains"
- 3) **2017-2018 NEBC SLATE:** The [Slate for 2017-2018 Council](#) proposed by the Nominating Committee will be sent in a separate email and is posted on the NEBC website. The vote will be taken at the Annual Meeting on 3 March 2017. Committee Chairs will also give their annual reports then.
- 4) **COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT:** The NEBC Council holds its’ Annual Meeting in April after the new Council election. At that time, the members on all committees are reviewed and revised. If you have an interest in or want to learn more about these committees, please reply. [NEBC Committees](#)

- 5) **NEBC GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD(S) APPLICATIONS DUE 1 MARCH 2017:** Each year NEBC offers up to \$3000 in support of botanical research conducted by graduate students. Wednesday, 1 March 2017 is the deadline for receipt of proposals and supporting letters. Additional details may be found on the [Graduate Student Research Award webpage](#).
- 6) **EAGLE HILL INSTITUTE DISCOUNTS & NEBC STIPENDS:** Eagle Hill Institute, Steuben, ME, is again offering NEBC members a 20% discount for the 2017 Workshops and Seminars. Also, NEBC will give a **stipend of \$150** towards costs for the first 10 NEBC members who register for a summer botany course. Contact John Burns at nebc@rhodora.org for details. [Eagle Hill 2017 calendar](#).
- 7) **UPCOMING EVENTS:** NEBC is sponsoring two upcoming events of interest to members:
- **Plants and Place: Native Flora in Western Massachusetts** on 1 April 1 2017 at the Deerfield Community Center, Deerfield, MA. This one-day forum brings together a range of speakers for a lively discussion of the history, use, and preservation of herbaria in western Massachusetts. At the end of the program participants will have the opportunity to examine the herbarium of Deerfield physician Stephen West Williams (1790-1855). The collection demonstrates the diversity and distribution of plants in the second decade of the 19th century, and provides a baseline for the presence of invasive species and endangered or extinct flora. Details and registration form can be found [here](#).
 - Eagle Hill Institute's [2017 Northeast Natural History Conference](#) on 21-23 April 2017 in Cromwell, CT. Abstract submission deadline is March 6th. Early registration closes March 20th.
- 8) **NEXT NEBC MEETING IS OUR ANNUAL DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER:** On 7 April 2017, Dr. Dennis Whigham, Senior Botanist, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and North American Orchid Conservation Center, Edgewater, MD, will speak on "*Native Orchids and Mycorrhiza – Ecologically Complex Interactions.*"
- 9) **VIDEO POSTED for NEBC FEBRUARY MEETING:** Please go to the Meetings/Past Summaries page on the web site to view Jenica Allen's February presentation
- 10) **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE PAST DUE:** [Renew Your NEBC Membership for 2017 Here!](#)
- 11) **PARKING LOCATION:** From 5 PM-10 PM, our designated FREE parking lot is **the 52 Oxford St. Garage, near the intersection of Everett St. and Oxford St.** Parking in any other lot will likely lead to towing. Please find a map showing the Oxford Garage (52OX) at the following link: [Interactive Harvard University Map](#).
- 12) **EARLIER ARRIVALS:** For those arriving before 5 PM, visitor permits (\$17.00/day) are available from Harvard Parking Service at Harvard Campus Service Center, 8th floor, Holyoke Building, 1350 Massachusetts Ave. (8AM-5PM) and on-line at [Visitor Parking Permit](#). Select OEB/MCZ/HUH for building and 2017 for the department code. License plate number needed for transaction. Print pass and display on dash. For more information, Parking Services may be contacted at 617-495-3772 or parking@harvard.edu. [AN ALTERNATIVE: Some members park at Alewife T station and ride the red line train to the Harvard Square T stop.]

The Council will meet 4–5 PM in the meeting room near Haller Lecture Hall.