



The 1186th meeting of the New England Botanical Society will be held
Friday, 4 April 2025, at 7:00 PM ET in Haller Lecture Hall (room 102),
Geological Museum, 24 Oxford St., Harvard University,
and via Zoom.



“A Vision for the Harvard University Herbarium in Our Rapidly Changing World”

By

Dr. Jeannine Cavender-Bares

Professor of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology and

Director of the Harvard University Herbaria

Cambridge, MA

PLEASE READ:

- 1) **THIS PRESENTATION & MEETING WILL BE IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL:** This meeting will be **in person** at Harvard University, but it will also be a **hybrid presentation using Zoom**. The link to join our Zoom Monthly Meetings will be recurring and is below. Also below is information on the free parking arrangements (4PM-9PM) that we have made for our members who plan to attend in person.
- 2) **DR. CAVENDER-BARES’ ABSTRACT:** In our era of accelerating technological advances and biodiversity loss, herbaria are critical laboratories for understanding how life on Earth is changing. Vast reservoirs of information about plant, fungal and other life forms are housed and carefully curated within the Harvard University Herbaria (HUH). My team's work is focused on understanding how plants live in contrasting environments and influence ecological processes critical to the ecosystem functions that form our life support. Many plant functions can be detected from specimens using spectroscopic sensors combined with machine learning algorithms, providing a novel means to decipher the ecological roles of rare or remote species and to inform remote sensing methods for mapping dimensions of biodiversity from space. Far from isolated ivory towers, herbaria are hubs of interdisciplinary biodiversity exploration, education and international collaboration that underpin global biodiversity knowledge. In this talk, I will discuss my ideas for centering the HUH in cutting-edge global biodiversity science and education.
- 3) **FARLOW HERBARIUM TOUR AT 3 PM:** We welcome you to join us on a tour of the Farlow Herbarium, including the Farlow Library reading room and collection spaces. The tour takes place Friday, April 4, 2025, from 3-4:30 PM ahead of our monthly member meeting and will be led by Harvard University Herbaria staff. Space is limited to 20 people and [registration here is required](#). Please note that our parking arrangements with Harvard for our evening meeting do not cover this start time, but parking in Oxford Garage can be made here: [LINK to Daily Passes \(\\$25\) and ZipBy \(\\$2.50/hr by app on phone and Bluetooth\)](#)
- 4) **2025 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE PAST DUE:** NEBS Bylaws *ARTICLE VI MEMBERSHIP AND DUES*, Section 5 states: *Annual dues shall be payable the first of January. Any member whose dues remain unpaid for more than three months shall cease to be a member and to receive Rhodora.* You will also not receive further mailings about meetings, field trips, events, and other opportunities. If you are unsure of your membership status, please reach out to Sarah at coordinator@rhodora.org.

- 5) **NEBS HERBARIA VOLUNTEER WORKDAY – APRIL 4 (10 - 5):** ALL HELP WELCOME!
- The [NEBS Vascular Plant Herbarium](#) will be holding a volunteer workday prior to the meeting on Friday, April 4. There will be plenty to do for people at all levels of experience - filing, strapping, stamping, barcoding, checking IDs, even repairs. Workday will start at 10 AM and run until 5 PM. Please contact Curator Lisa Standley at lisa_standley@verizon.net before **Wednesday, April 2**, if you are interested in participating.
 - Volunteers interested in doing assorted curatorial tasks in the [NEBS Cryptogams Herbarium](#), housed in the basement of the Farlow Herbarium, should contact Curator Elizabeth Kneiper at Ekneiper@aol.com before **Wednesday, April 2**.
- 6) **SUMMER COLLECTING FIELD TRIP DATES ARE SET:** Join the NEBS Herbarium Curators in Bennington County, VT, and Hampden County, MA, to collect specimens of the modern vascular and cryptogam flora (and lichens too!) for the herbaria. There are four scheduled collecting trips in summer 2025 on **May 3, May 31, June 29, and July 26**. Please find the registration forms for each on the [Upcoming Field Trips](#) webpage.
- 7) **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEBS 2025 AWARD WINNERS:** There were an exceptional number of applications this year for all three of our awards. These worthy winners will receive some funding for their innovative projects. Please see links below for full details. Also please notice that the two Mehrhoff Award winners from 2024 (Laura Costello and Sue Williams) have completed their projects and their final reports are now posted on the webpage.
- **JUNIOR FACULTY AWARD:** [Junior Faculty Award](#)
 - Dr. Chloe Pak Drummond at Mount Holyoke College
 - **GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD:** [Graduate Student Research Award](#)
 - Jason Leung at Columbia University
 - Caroline Witherspoon at SUNY-ESF
 - **LES MEHRHOFF BOTANICAL RESEARCH AWARD:** [Les Mehrhoff Botanical Research Award](#)
 - Ujjal Banik
 - Eric Hagen & Michael Lew-Smith
 - Alex Karasoulos
 - Emmi Kurosawa
 - Catherine Wessel & Will Durkin
- 8) **SAVE THE DATES FOR OCTOBER CONFERENCE IN MAINE:** NEBS is excited to share that we will be hosting a conference with [Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens](#), *Plant Migration in a Changing Climate*, to be held **Friday-Saturday, October 3-4, 2025** at CMBG in Boothbay, ME. Visit [What's New](#) webpage for up-to-date information and be on the lookout for emails from Sarah Anacleto, our Coordinator of Operations and Membership, at coordinator@rhodora.org with more information.
- 9) **EAGLE HILL INSTITUTE DISCOUNTS TO NEBS (20%) & NEBS STIPENDS (\$150) FOR 3 STUDENTS, & EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNTS (3%/6%):** The [Eagle Hill Institute](#), Steuben, ME, is again offering NEBS members a 20% discount for their 2025 in-person summer week-long seminars (June-August). This discount is applied towards tuition and accommodations, but not meals or lab/microscope use fees. Also, NEBS will cover one stipend per year of \$150 towards costs for the first 3 NEBS STUDENT members who register for a summer botany course. This year Eagle Hill is also offering discounts on tuition if registering at least 8 weeks before (6%) or at least 4 weeks before (3%) and including a \$100 deposit with registration. Contact NEBS Coordinator of Operations & Membership at coordinator@rhodora.org for details and to apply. [Eagle Hill Seminar Calendar](#)

- 10) **NEXT NEBS MEETING:** On Friday, May 2, 2025, Meredith Elizabeth Theus, PhD candidate & 2023 recipient of NEBS' Graduate Student Research Award, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, will speak on "*The Role of Plant Diversity in Wetland Greenhouse Gas Emissions*" **AND** Andrea J. Tirrell, PhD candidate & 2023 recipient of NEBS' Graduate Student Research Award, School of Biology & Ecology, Climate Change Institute, University of Maine, Orono, ME, will speak on "*Alpine Plant Communities of Katahdin: A Resurvey After 33 Years.*" This meeting will be held at [Garden in the Woods - Native Plant Trust](#) in Framingham, MA, and will be in-person only.
- 11) **HARVARD UNIVERSITY FREE PARKING LOCATION:** 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. At the booth at the entrance to the underground garage, please tell the attendant that you are with the New England Botanical Society. The [Interactive Harvard Campus Map](#) is useful for navigating around campus. **FRIDAY PARKING ARRANGEMENTS:** Free parking for attendees will be from **4 PM to 9 PM** on the Friday of the meeting.
- 12) **VIDEOS of PAST PRESENTATIONS:** Please see [Past Meetings](#) webpage for videos of past lectures, including Don Hudson's March presentation.
- 13) **WATCH FOR UPCOMING EVENTS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:** [Upcoming Meetings](#) and [Upcoming Field Trips](#) webpages will have details posted as they become available.

ZOOM INVITATION FOR NEBS MONTHLY MEETINGS

Topic: NEBS Monthly Meeting
 Date and Time: First Friday of the month at
 7:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/98845538584>

Meeting ID: 988 4553 8584
 One tap mobile
 +19292056099,,98845538584# US (New York)
 +13017158592,,98845538584# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location
 +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
 +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
 +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
 +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
 +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
 +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
 Meeting ID: 988 4553 8584
 Find your local number:
<https://zoom.us/u/adKxNNXCOj>

The next Council meeting will be held 23 April 2025 from 6:00-7:30 PM ET via Zoom.

New England Botanical Society
 Harvard University Herbaria, 22 Divinity Ave.,
 Cambridge, MA 02138-2020

NEBS Corresponding Secretary
 Nancy M. Eyster-Smith
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Membership
[Renew or Join Here!](#)

Upcoming Meetings
[Webpage Link to Program Calendar](#)

NEBS WEB SITE: <http://www.rhodora.org/>
[New England Botanical Society Brochure](#)

[Mission and Vision Statements](#)
[Strategic Goals for 2020-2025](#)