



# Preparing for a Northwest Passage: A Workshop on the Role of New England in Navigating the New Arctic

The University of New Hampshire

**March 25-27, 2018**

*(Dr. Jennifer Francis keynote lecture March 25<sup>th</sup> 7 pm  
Workshop March 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>)*

**Overview:** The rapid warming of the Arctic and melting of Arctic sea and land ice will have ramifications around the globe. Shipping routes through an ice-free Northwest Passage in combination with modifications to ocean circulation and regional climate patterns linked to Arctic ice melt will affect trade, fisheries, tourism, coastal ecology, air and water quality, animal migration, and demographics not only in the Arctic but also in lower latitude coastal regions such as New England. With profound changes on the horizon, this is a critical opportunity for New England to prepare for uncertain yet inevitable economic and environmental impacts of Arctic change. In order to detect and respond to the challenges that New England will face as the nation's eastern gateway to the Arctic, it will be necessary to modify traditional observational networks and models. This workshop pairs two of NSF's 10 Big Ideas: Navigating the New Arctic and Growing Convergence Research at NSF. During this event, participants will assess economic, environmental, and social impacts of Arctic change on New England and establish convergence research initiatives to prepare for, adapt to, and capitalize on these effects.

**<https://mypages.unh.edu/ne-arctic-convergence>**

For more information, contact [katharine.duderstadt@unh.edu](mailto:katharine.duderstadt@unh.edu)

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