

Know Before You Go!

Know Before You Go to NERLSCD 2026



NERLSCD 2026 will be *returning to campus* this year on the beautiful grounds of Worcester Polytechnic Institute centrally located in the heart of Worcester, Massachusetts. The campus is located at 100 Institute Road in Worcester, MA minutes off Interstate 290.

Registration will be held at the Fireside Lounge in the Rubin Campus Center. *Please note that during the Opening Social Hours (Wed 6:00-8:30), Registration will move to the Worcester Art Museum.* Plenary talks, sponsor showcases and food service will also be hosted in the Rubin Campus Center, third floor. Pre-meeting vendor workshops and breakout sessions will be held in the neighboring Innovation Studio – a few steps across the sidewalk.

Hotel and Parking

We encourage those needing overnight accommodations to please use the NERLSCD 2026 room block at the Courtyard by Marriott Worcester (72 Grove St), Worcester, MA 01605 to receive the group discount.

Hotel contact:

Linda Fogarty
Email: linda.fogarty@aimbridge.com

Hotel Tel: (508) 363-0300
Direct: +1-860-391-6151

Feel welcomed at Courtyard Worcester, where modern comfort meets effortless convenience. Start your day with Starbucks® coffee, unwind by the indoor pool, and enjoy a prime location near Worcester Polytechnic Institute, DCU Center, Polar Park, and downtown Worcester. Recharge in stylish rooms with free WiFi, ergonomic workspaces, and plush Marriott bedding. Grab fresh meals, Starbucks drinks, and evening cocktails at The Bistro, or explore local favorites like The Fix Burger Bar, The Mercantile, and The Sole Proprietor. Stay active in our fitness center, take a dip in the pool, or enjoy nearby Quinsigamond State Park. With easy access to the Hanover Theatre and Worcester Art Museum, you're perfectly positioned to experience the best of the city.

Check-in is at 3:00 PM/check-out is at 12:00. A photo ID will be required at time of check-in.
Hotel Daily Parking is available On-site at \$15/day.

Commuter Parking

Commuting information may be found at the following link: <https://www.wpi.edu/coming-to-campus>

Parking is provided at the Park Avenue Garage as follows:

Directions to the Park Avenue Garage

Corner of Park Avenue and Salisbury Street

GPS Address: 151 Salisbury Street | Worcester MA

Primary access into the garage will be from Salisbury Street, with secondary access available from the northbound lane of Park Ave. This entrance includes a driveway shared with the First Baptist Church and should be traveled with care and caution due to its proximity to First Friends Childcare Center.

Transportation to the Meeting

The closest airport to NERLSCD 2026 is Logan International Airport in Boston, MA (52 miles away). Worcester is also a convenient stop on the MBTA Commuter Rail <https://www.mbtta.com/schedules/CR-Worcester/timetable> which leaves South Station in Boston. The Worcester train station is an easy UBER/LYFT ride to campus.

Getting around campus

Valet Park transportation shuttles will run throughout the meeting from the Courtyard Marriott Front Entrance to the Rubin Campus Center. Please check the dashboard sign for the NERLSCD logo.

For those who enjoy a walk, signage will be ample providing directions for the 15 minute walk through campus enjoying Institute Park along the way. Directional maps can also be located at the Hotel front desk.

SPONSOR INFORMATION:

Table set up in the Rubin Center is available on **Wednesday, October 14, from 7am to 12pm**. Those requiring earlier setups are encouraged to contact NERLSCD hosts (info below).

Please register all of your members for the meeting if have not yet <https://nerlscd.abrf.org/>.

Pre-Meeting Workshops

Time	Session	Speaker	Sponsor	Location
1:15-2:45 PM	Qiagen PreMeeting/Workshop- Try something New from QIAGEN! Whet your appetite with some taste testing of appetizers, drinks (alcoholic & non-alcoholic)	Samuel J. Rulli	Qiagen	Innovation Studio 203
1:15-2:45 PM	NEB PreMeeting/Workshop- Partnering for Core Lab Success: NEBNext Solutions and the NEBNext Alliance Program	Siva Chavadi	NEB	Innovation Studio 205
3:00-4:30 PM	Illumina PreMeeting/Workshop- 2026 Illumina Pre-Meeting Workshop at NERLSCD		Illumina	Innovation Studio 203

NE-CAN meeting ahead of NERLSCDs

Northeast Core Admin (NE-CAN) meeting will be held at **Worcester Polytechnic Institute** on Wednesday, October 14, 2026 3:00 PM, location – **Worcester Polytechnic Institute**
Room – TBD

An interactive map of the WPI Campus may be found at the following link:

[WPI Interactive Map](#) | [WPI Campus Map](#) | [Worcester, MA](#)

Opening Reception will be held on **October 14th from 6:00pm-8:30pm** at the Worcester Art Museum <https://www.worcesterart.org/> located at 55 Salisbury Street, Worcester. Parking is available behind the Museum for those driving. For those staying at the Marriott, the Museum is a short 10 minute walk. Be sure to join us as the Museum is featuring the Arms & Armor Galleries – a special feature available to NERLSCD attendees!

Weather

Weather has been relatively cool, especially in the mornings and at night. (In the 50s!) Prepare for potentially warm days and even possible rain.

Nearby Attractions

Please visit <https://www.discovercentralma.org/towns-cities/worcester/> for a full list of attractions as well as a full dining list. Please visit the NERLSCD Registration Desk for a list of local eateries that offer discounts to those with NERLSCD badges!

Don't forget to stop by the WPI Campus Store located directly across from NERLSCD Registration. Show your NERLSCD badge and receive 10% off your purchases! Go GOATS 😊

We are looking forward to seeing you on campus in Worcester!

The meeting hosts:

Susanna Perkins

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James Eakin

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jeakin@wpi.edu