UArctic Assembly
June 1-3, 2021
Portland, Maine

...with pre- and post meeting events on May 31, 2022 and afternoon of June 3, 2022
Co-Hosts of the June 2021 UArctic Assembly Meeting in Portland, Maine
Portland is home to Eimskip U.S.A., Iceland’s largest cargo shipping company, connecting Maine and New England to the Arctic region.
Portland

- Native Americans, originally called the Portland peninsula *Machigonne* ("Great Neck").
- Portland was named for Isle of Portland, off the coast of Dorset, England, and the city of Portland, Oregon, was in turn named for Portland, Maine.
- Weather in June
  - Avg. High: 73.3 °F, 22.9 °C
  - Avg. Low: 53.6 °F, 12.0 °C
  - Avg. Precipitation: 3.79 inches, 3.79 mm
Portland

- Situated on a peninsula in Casco Bay on the Gulf of Maine and the Atlantic Ocean
- Incorporated on July 4, 1786
- Most populous city in Maine with a population of 66,417 in 2018
- Total area of 70 square miles (180 km²), of which 21 square miles (55 km²) is land and 48 square miles (125 km²) is water.
- Portland’s economy relies mostly on the service sector and tourism.
- Marine industry still plays an important role in the city's economy, with an active waterfront that supports fishing and commercial shipping.
Food and Drink
• Winner, 2018 Restaurant City of the Year by Bon Appetit magazine.
• Named "Best American City for Food" by the Daily Meal (April 2015).
• Ranked first city in the world (April 2016) for craft beer by the largest independent travel publisher in the world, The Matador Network.
• Ranked number 10 in the "VegNews" 12 Best Towns for Vegan Living (2017).

Lifestyle and Travel
• Made Fodor's 2020 list for top 52 cities in the world for a travel destination.
• Ranked top city in America to spend the weekend (with population under 90,000) by Thrillist.com (May 2018).
• Ranked twelfth on Frommer's 2007 "Top Travel Destinations".
• Named "Best Adventure Town in the East" by Outside Magazine (2010).
The Wabanaki Nations – **Abenaki, Maliseet, Mi’kmaq, Passamaquoddy, and Penobscot** – are thriving and growing in Maine and beyond.

Over 10,000 Native people currently live in Maine. Most are Wabanaki – a confederacy of Nations that today consists of the four federally recognized tribes in Maine: Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Micmac, and Maliseet.

In addition, the Wabanaki includes several bands of the Abenaki tribe, located primarily in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Quebec, Canada.
We are finalizing agreements with the hotels in Portland listed below. All hotels are within walking distance to the USM campus. Bus accommodations will be provided when the Assembly meets at the UNE campus.

Price range: $200 to $270 per night in June, discounts available.

Complimentary secure high-speed wireless internet access is available in all guest rooms.

- Holiday Inn by the Bay
- Hyatt Place Portland-Old Port
- Courtyard by Marriott Downtown
- Hampton Inn Portland Downtown
- Hilton Garden Inn Portland Downtown
Transportation

Best Option for International Travelers
- Boston International Airport (BOS)
  - Most international airlines
  - Bus Transportation to Portland
  - Amtrak Downeaster
  - Car Rentals

Other Options
- Portland International Jetport (PWM)
- Bangor International Airport (BGR)
- Manchester-Boston Regional Airport (MHT)

PWM, BGR, and MHT do not currently have regularly scheduled direct international flights to or from these airports.

Typically, travelers book international flights to/from the airports with one stop in a major regional airport prior to leaving or coming into the United States.
Confirmed Venues for UArctic Assembly Core Meetings

June 1, 2022 - University of Southern Maine
• 5 minutes from downtown Portland via bus, taxi, and Uber
• 15 minutes walk from downtown Portland
• Hannaford Hall: +500-seat auditorium; reception area; 6 breakout rooms accommodating 40-60 people

June 2-3, 2022 - University of New England, Portland Campus
• 10 minutes from downtown Portland via bus, taxi, Uber
• Innovation Hall: Modern conference center renovated in 2017; 600 max main hall; connected to large reception center; breakout rooms holding 50-150 persons.
Portland Museum of the Art

- The largest and oldest public art institution in the U.S. state of Maine. Founded as the Portland Society of Art in 1882.
- Located in the downtown area known as The Arts District in Portland.
- Can accommodate 200+ people for a reception.
- Walking distance to all hotels.
Peaks Island is the most populous island in Casco Bay, Maine (pop ~ 900 in 2017 though the population of residents increases in the summer by an estimated 2,000–4,000).

It is part of the city of Portland and is approximately 3 miles (4.8 km) from downtown. The island is served by Casco Bay Lines and is home to its own elementary school, library, and police station.

While small, the island hosts a variety of businesses including an ice cream parlor, restaurant, grocery store, kayak rentals, golf cart rentals, art galleries, the Fifth Maine Regiment Museum and the Umbrella Cover Museum, among others.
Possible Pre- and Post-Meetings

Separate Charges from Registration Fee

We are working with the UArctic Administration to select the appropriate options for pre-and post-meetings and excursions.

UArctic Administration specific meetings may include:
• North2North Overview
• UArctic’s Senior Management of Toyon
• UArctic Senior Management and Assembly executive committee

Other pre- and post-meetings that support the theme “UArctic Dialogs: How can mid-latitude institutions best contribute and engage?” may include but are not limited to:

• Overview of Thematic Networks
• The New England Arctic Consortium
• Wabanaki Nations of New England
• Meetings with researchers at co-host institutions that are engaged in Arctic related projects

The format for these meetings may be individual speakers and/or panel discussions
In addition, we are looking into offering excursions for members that are interested in exploring Maine. These excursions may include but are not limited to:

- Casco Bay Islands: Beaches, Hiking, Parks and Gardens, Recreation, Shopping, Swimming/Pools, Neighborhood/Area Type. Half Day to Full Day
- Old Port: Cafes, Shopping, Sightseeing, Free, Neighborhood/Area Type. 2 hours to Half Day
- Brewery Tours: Wineries and Craft Beer. 1 to 2 hours.
- Portland Museum of the Art: 2 hours to half day
- Maine Food for Thought Tours: 2 hours to half day
- Wadsworth Longfellow House: 1 to 2 hours
- L.L. Bean in Freeport: Clothing and outdoor recreation equipment. 2 hours to half day
- Portland Lighthouse
- Field trips to Casco Bay Estuary and climate change adaptation activities