



April 6, 2016

New England Diversity Council Hosts Inaugural Maine Women in Leadership Symposium

On March 24, 2016, the New England Diversity Council hosted the Inaugural Maine Women in Leadership Symposium at the University of Southern Maine in Portland. Attendees of the symposium gained knowledge and advice from corporate leaders who shared insight from their personal success and leadership experience as professionals.

“We are excited to take the Women in Leadership Symposium to Maine this year,” said Dennis Kennedy, Founder and Chair of the National Diversity Council. “Expanding our reach to new markets gives us the opportunity to acknowledge exceptional women across the nation.”



The half-day event featured multiple business leaders from various organizations discussing topics such as “The Courage to Lead: Inner Dimensions of Self,” “Stop Networking and Start Making Connections,” and “Becoming a Person of Influence.” The symposium began with a welcome from Javier Castro of the National Diversity Council. Following a series of speeches presented by six featured panelists, audience members were given the opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts on the discussion topics presented.

The New England Diversity Council would like to thank all the sponsors, speakers and attendees for helping to make this event a success.

The event program booklet and photos can be viewed here:

[Timeline](#)
[Program](#)
[Photos](#)

Women in Leadership Symposium Panelists:

Lisa Walker

*Director, Women and Gender Studies
University of Southern Maine*

Asha Echeverria

*Shareholder
Bernstein Shur*

Heather Paquette

*VP, Retail Operations
Hannaford Supermarkets*

Lily Lu

*VP, Deputy General Counsel
INDEXX Laboratories, Inc.*

Breege Farrell

*Executive VP, Chief Investment Office
Unum*

Melissa Skahan

*VP, Mission Integration
Mercy Hospital*