

MEDIA ALERT | For Immediate Release June 27, 2018

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LEARN ABOUT THE PITTSBURGH PANGOLIN AT SCIENCE CENTER'S <u>CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE</u>

ZOO EXPERT EXPLAINS MISSION TO SAVE ENDANGERED SPECIES FROM EXTINCTION

PITTSBURGH, June 27, 2018 — Pangolins are among the most evolutionarily primitive mammals and the only mammal with scales. Their enormous appetite for ants and termites means that they serve a major role in ecosystems to control insects. On Monday, July 2 from 7–9 pm, come to Carnegie Science Center's next Café Sci event when Ken Kaemmerer, Curator of Mammals at the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium, relates the story of how a consortium of zoos, including the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium, developed a small population of African white-bellied tree pangolins from Togo.

During his presentation, Kaemmerer will talk about the mammal's biology and behavior, as well as how the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium has been collaborating with genetic scientists from Duquesne University.

Kaemmerer's career with animals has spanned more than 40 years among five zoos. He has worked with most major mammal groups, from elephants to naked mole rats, and everything in between. He has served on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Ocelot Recovery Team, and he was the national Species Survival Program Coordinator for all ocelots in zoos. Most recently, he has helped direct the animal care program and facilitated research with the rare and endangered African white-bellied pangolins acquired by the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium.

Admission to Café Sci is **FREE**. Food and drinks are available for purchase. The doors to the event open at 6 pm for networking and refreshments, and the event lasts from **7–9 pm**. The evening includes time for informal discussion, eating, and drinking with a cash bar.

For more information and to register, visit <u>CarnegieScienceCenter.org</u> or call 412.237.3400.

Café Sci is presented by PPG and sponsored by Green Mountain Energy.

About Carnegie Science Center

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center's goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh's premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

Accessibility: Features for All

Carnegie Science Center welcomes all visitors. We work to assist visitors with disabilities in obtaining reasonable and appropriate accommodations, and in supporting equal access to services, programs, and activities. We welcome visitors in wheelchairs on the deck of our USS Requin (SS 481) submarine. Below-deck visits require full mobility. Hearing assistance devices are available for The Rangos Giant Cinema. Please ask when you buy your ticket.

Please note that requests for accommodations should be made at least two weeks prior to your visit. For specific questions about wheelchairs, strollers, or other programmatic or equipment needs, see the ticket counter located on the first floor of the main building or contact Customer Service at 412.237.1641 or info@carnegiesciencecenter.org. Please contact Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh's Accessibility Coordinator with concerns regarding accessibility for visitors with disabilities at the museums. On weekdays, call 412.622.6578 or email accessibility@carnegiemuseums.org.

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

Established in 1895 by Andrew Carnegie, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. In 2017, the museums reached more than 1.4 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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