



**CARNEGIE  
SCIENCE  
CENTER**

*One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh*

**MEDIA ALERT**

For Immediate Release

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**SCIENCE AND SOCIETY PUBLIC FORUM TO DISCUSS GEOLOGY OF  
MARCELLUS SHALE**

***EXPERT TO LEAD IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION AT CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER***

**PITTSBURGH, March 9, 2011** —Marcellus Shale natural gas places western Pennsylvania at a historic energy crossroads. On March 24, 2011, from 7–9 pm, Carnegie Science Center will present *Drilling Down on Marcellus Shale: Geology Underlying Marcellus Shale*, an engaging adult-oriented lecture that encourages citizens to take part in a public forum on a topic central our region's environmental and economic future. This installment will cover the geology of the Marcellus Shale formation.

Featured speaker will be Charles E. Jones, PhD, from the Department of Geology and Planetary Science at the University of Pittsburgh. Jones will answer the question '*What exactly is the Marcellus Shale?*' with facts about the shale's geographical location, composition, and history. Following the talk, members of the audience are encouraged to share their own questions, comments, and viewpoints.

"To understand why the Marcellus Shale is such a provocative topic right now, we need to first understand the basics like what it's made of, what local areas contain the shale, and how deep underground it is," says John Radzilowicz, director of Science and Education at Carnegie Science Center. "Our job at the Science Center is to make current events in science and technology as accessible as possible, beginning with the fundamental concepts."

The cost of this program is \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members. Admission includes coffee and dessert. Registration is available [online](#) or by calling 412.237.3400, then press 7.

Jones received his PhD from Oxford University, as a Rhodes Scholar, and he carried out geological research at the University of Michigan and University of North Carolina before joining the University of Pittsburgh faculty as a lecturer. He is co-author, with his father, of the widely used *Laboratory Manual for Physical Geology*, now in its fifth edition. Jones's research involves the geochemistry of sedimentary rocks and fossils as applied to problems in paleoceanography and global climate change. More information on the speaker is available [here](#).

The *Drilling Down on Marcellus Shale* series continues in April and May with presentations exploring environmental considerations and the energy potential of harnessing the Marcellus Shale.

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**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.

**About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh**

Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1895, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums dedicated to exploration through art and science: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. In 2009, the museums reached more than 1.2 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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