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**MEDIA ALERT** | For Immediate Release

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## **NEXT CAFÉ SCI OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE OF ENERGY**

***INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED ENGINEER DISCUSSES THE FUTURE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY***

PITTSBURGH, March 23, 2017 — Renewable energy is one of today's hottest topics. In a unique opportunity, join internationally acclaimed engineer Dr. John Swanson at Carnegie Science Center's next Café Scientifique. Swanson will cover the spectrum of renewable energy technologies, where that technology has been, and where it might be going. No technical background is needed to enjoy this talk. This free event will take place on **Monday, April 3**, from 7 – 9 pm.

The namesake of The Swanson School of Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh, Swanson has spent the last decade working on renewable energy, mainly solar energy. He has lectured both locally and nationally on solar energy, and has funded startups in photovoltaics (PV), biodiesel, and battery technology. Swanson is active in Green Key Village, an energy-efficient community in Lake County, Florida. He has installed PV on residences, animal shelters, and houses of worship and helped others in the design of their PV systems.

Recognized as one of the world's top engineers, Swanson was awarded the John Fritz Medal in 2004. Previous medal recipients include such notable engineers as Lord Kelvin, George Westinghouse, Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison, and Alfred Nobel. Swanson received B.S. and M.S. degrees from Cornell University and his Ph.D. in Applied Mechanics from the University of Pittsburgh. During his storied career, he worked on the "Mars Rocket" project for Westinghouse and founded simulation software company ANSYS.

Swanson is a Fellow of American Society of Mechanical Engineers and a member of National Academy of Engineering. He has served on the Board of Trustees of PITT and Washington & Jefferson College. He is also a member of the Engineering College Council at Cornell.

After the talk, audience members will be invited to ask questions and become part of the discussion.

Admission to Café Sci is free. Food and drinks are available for purchase. Doors open at 6 pm. The evening includes time for informal discussion, eating, and drinking.

For more information and to register, visit [CarnegieScienceCenter.org](http://CarnegieScienceCenter.org) or call 412.237.3400.

**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**

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 2016, the museums reached more than 1.4 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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