

TO: News Editors

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RE: Giant Panda Expert from Zoo Atlanta
... visits Palm Beach Zoo
... lectures in Palm Beach County

DATE: November 24, 2006

Dr. Terry L. Maple, President and CEO of the Palm Beach Zoo, has announced that Dr. Rebecca Snyder, Curator of Giant Panda Research and Management at Zoo Atlanta, will deliver a lecture on Giant Panda biology, conservation and research, highlighting the recent Panda birth at Zoo Atlanta. She is among the dedicated researchers working to save the Giant Panda, one of the world's best-loved animals. The Palm Beach Zoo and The Harriett L. Wilkes Honors College at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) will co-present Dr. Snyder's speaking engagement, which takes place on Friday, December 8 at 4pm at the FAU Jupiter Campus (Auditorium AD 119). A reception will follow immediately after the lecture.

Dr. Snyder received her B.S. in Zoology from Iowa State U. She earned her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Georgia Institute of Technology. Throughout her graduate studies she held a Research Associate position at Zoo Atlanta. She spent two years in Chengdu, China studying captive giant panda reproductive, maternal and developmental behavior, before joining the Zoo Atlanta staff in 2001. She now supervises Georgia Tech graduate students and Zoo Atlanta keepers, who continue behavioral research projects on giant pandas at Zoo Atlanta and in China.

The story of the Giant Panda and its struggle for survival is one that will enlighten, delight and inspire those that hear it. Interviews and photographs of Dr. Snyder are available. For more information call the Palm Beach Zoo, 561-533-0887, ext 219.