



THE ACADEMY
OF NATURAL SCIENCES
of DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Media Advisory/Photo Opp

**Drexel and Academy Scientists Install Rare
Giant Dinosaur Bone
At The Franklin Institute's *Giant Mysterious Dinosaurs* Exhibit!
Plus, New Franklin and Academy Joint Ticket Announcement**

What: Paleontologists **Dr. Kenneth Lacovara** from Drexel University and **Dr. Ted Daeschler** from the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, with **Jason Poole**, manager of the Academy's Fossil Prep Lab, will unveil the cast of a fossil from one of the largest known dinosaurs. This marks the first time any part of the *Paralititan*, which was first discovered in 2000, will be displayed outside of Egypt. The five-foot-long humerus (upper arm bone) cast from the plant-eating giant *Paralititan stromeri* will be installed in the NEW *Giant Mysterious Dinosaurs* exhibit at The Franklin Institute. The *Paralititan* display will include 3-D laser scanning and rapid prototyping technology.

The Academy and The Franklin Institute will announce a new Giant Dinosaur Deal discounted joint ticket offer so visitors can enjoy dinosaurs at both of Philadelphia's leading science museums at a reduced rate.

Visuals: Lacovara, Daeschler and Poole will lift the huge cast into place and answer questions about the *Paralititan*. Drexel robotics professor Dr. James Tangorra will answer questions about the latest 3-D technology applied to the study of dinosaurs.

When: Thursday, February 2 at 10:30 a.m.

Where: The Franklin Institute, 222 North 20th St., Philadelphia.
***Giant Mysterious Dinosaurs* exhibit | The Mandell Center**

Background:

- *Paralititan* was discovered in 2000 in Egypt by a joint team from Drexel (Lacovara), the Academy (Poole), the University of Pennsylvania, and the Egyptian Geological Survey. The 80-foot-long, 40-ton plant-eating *Paralititan* lived 95 million years ago along the coast of North Africa. *Paralititan* is the second-most massive dinosaur known and its discovery is important because it has added new information to the little-known African titanosaurs of the Late Cretaceous Period.
- The **Giant Dinosaur Deal** ticket allows visitors to purchase one combination ticket for general admission to the Franklin and to see *Giant Mysterious Dinosaurs*, then walk across the street to the Academy's permanent *Discovering Dinosaurs* exhibit. The Academy's exhibit features 30 species of dinosaurs and a Fossil Prep Lab where technicians are working on a new, as-yet unnamed species of giant dinosaur discovered by Lacovara. The combo ticket price is \$27.50 for adults and \$23.50 for children. Academy members visiting The Franklin are \$18.50 for adults and \$12.25 for children. Franklin members visiting the Academy are \$9.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Tickets may be purchased at the Academy and at The Franklin. The offer runs through March 18.

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