

# Leaps of faith: From cougars to climate change

The rise of the internet and the proliferation of alternative sources of information are potential contributors to a slow-but-steady cultural erosion of public trust in both science and the people who report on it.

Award-winning journalist, [Tom Zeller](#), has spent more than two decades writing on environment, climate change, energy, and related issues, mostly for *The New York Times*. During this journey he has encountered magical thinking, misplaced scepticism, and other artifacts of these trends — including one long night spent cougar-spotting amid a thin stand of trees in Connecticut.

Speaking at the International Summit on Quackery and Pseudoscience, hosted by [Centre for Science and Technology Mass Communication](#), in Stellenbosch recently, he also provided reflections on where journalism might turn from here.

**Source:** Centre for Science and Technology Mass Communicati

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