Library of Alexandria Africa Global Health

(Ronaldlaporte@gmail.com)

Africa Global Health

Our primary focus is Africa Global health. This is global health in Africa viewed through the lens of the Library of Alexandria and Africa as a whole. Musa Kana from Nigeria has been essential for the Africa Global Health network. As with every project we first wanted to build a network as we did with the Supercourse network where 50,000 people like you have joined and stuck with us in many cases over 15 years.

Eugene Shubnikov, M.D., has been the master of network building in the past few weeks. We now have a network of over 10000 faculty from the 123 medical schools in Africa for Africa Global Health. Also he amazingly built a 45,000 faculty network from the leading 100 Universities in Africa. This is the largest Pan-African network of University faculty. This is coordinated through the Library of Alexandria under the direction of Dr. Serageldin.

[&]quot;Wisdom is like a baobab tree, no one individual can embrace it" Akan proverb

We have been in contact with over 10,000 of the medical school faculty in Africa. There currently are over 180 links from Africa and world wide to the research methods library. The expansion has been extensive and dramatic. Many faculty and students are going the African Global Health research mystery tour with us.

Our first approach has been to share the WHO Definition of Health as we have been doing yearly with you. We are seeing a similar pattern in Africa as with almost all our schools where very few Medical Schools have been teaching "what is health" definition, but they are now. A crude estimate is that about 25% of the medical students in Africa saw WHO Definition in the past week. They may not remember the exact working, but they will remember that there is a WHO Definition.

The second major group we are targeting is those faculty and senior level students in Africa who want to publish. As indicated only 2.6% of the world's publications come from Africa. Most of the leading universities subscribe to the Publish or Perish philosophy now, where publication is central to advancement. The faculty and students are brilliant, but are hindered by limited research methods

[&]quot;A wise Person will always find a way" (Tanzanian proverb)

[&]quot;Wisdom is not like money to be tied up and hidden" (Akan Proverb)

skills or access to research experts. This is why we built the Research methods library of alexandria (RMLA)

The RMLA may be the leading methods library in the world. We would very much appreciate if you could send to us lectures and materials to be included in the RMLA on the importance of publishing and how to do scientific publishing.

However, merely having a library is not sufficient, as it is very difficult to learn without a mentor. We are going to try a new approach, and we wanted your advice. This is the research "dating game" to find a wonderful mentor approach. When I enter into a new area such as Type 1 diabetes registries I do a google scholar search and find 10 who have published in the area, and I email them. Typically 2-3 write back to help. We would like to develop something similar. We are trying to build an e-Harmony, Match.com, epidemiologist Mingle approach where aspiring young researchers can find the "bachelorette/Bachelor" research expert of their dreams in the RMLA "dating" site.

Important Disclaimer (for Jan, my wife). I have never used a dating service or watched the Bachelorette TV

"Where there is love, there is no darkness" (Burundian proverb)

World Health Day: Apr. 7, 2014. Do a search on World Health day, and you can find materials to celebrate this in your school. This year's world health day targets food safety. We hope in the future that we can target African Global Health as a topic

.

Please send your materials on how to publish to be included in the RMLA. Please suggest how we can set up a research methods dating service.

Come Join us on the this African Global Health Mystery Tour

Magical Mystery Tour (beatles)
Roll up, roll up for the mystery tour
Roll up, roll up for the mystery tour
Roll up (And that's an invitation), roll up for the mystery tour
Roll up (To make a reservation), roll up for the mystery tour
The magical mystery tour is waiting to take you away
Waiting to take you away

Best Regards

Ron, Ismail, Faina, Eugene, Musa, Francois, Mita, Vint, Gil, Eric. Eman, Francis, Mita, for the RMLA team and Africa Global Health

Ronaldlaporte@gmail.com

"Health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity". (WHO)

Ronald E. LaPorte, Ph.D. Emeritus Director WHO Collaborating Center Professor Emeritus Epidemiology University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA, USA