On July 1, I retired. Retirement is quite nice, I get up in the morning, read the New York Times, I spend some time looking at my email, then have lunch. Then I go pump some iron at the gym, come back and read, and have dinner with Jan. I think this procedure will continue for 4000 more days and then I will die. I am limiting what I am doing to email as perhaps I have too much of a workaholic in my life.

Emeritus: I love my friends. Andrea Kriska, Jane Cauley, Faina Linkov, Evelyn Talbott, Tom Songer and Anne Newman gave to me my second most important day of my life after marrying Jan. I had my Emeritus party, which started out to be really cool. Ann spoke, then Trevor got up and started to go over my life story (which is a bit crazy). Then as he talked, completely unexpectedly former students of mine came out. First was Lucile Adams, who came in from Washington. She grabbed me and I jumped. A bit of a tear came to my eye that she would come. Then Francois Sauer, one of my best friends came from Kansas. Then amazingly Marian Rewers and Jill Norris came from Denver. I thought this was wonderful, but then I was in for a super surprise. Benjamin Acosta came from Mexico City, Nan Tajima from Tokyo, and Eugene Shubnikov from Russia. What a wonderful feeling of being appreciated when people come around the world to see me. A few more tears were shed. Trish and Trevor Orchard touched me, as Trish is an artist, and she painted a beautiful picture from the location where Jan and I were married overlooking the Cathedral of Learning at my University. We then had a beer party. Steve Dearwater gave me an “exercise is medicine” t-shirt, (as I have questioned exercise). They prepared a remarkable video as well, with friends such as Clare Bunker, Steve Blair, and many others saying kind and funny things some of which I did not want to remember! I received many very nice notes from global friends including Paul Zimmett, Mark Eberhardt, Sarah Patrick. I am most proud that I graduated 31 Ph.D. students, 200 masters and over 1000 in short courses and 17 are professors with 2 Ministers of health, a member of the IOM, the head of the Mexican national health survey, etc. It is really great seeing my former students doing far better than I did in their fields. My former students are my legacy.

“To have friends coming in from afar, how delightful” (Chinese proverb)

My sister Sue Bennett, gave me a wonderful gift. She is extremely thoughtful, but a little strange. She gave me “Ron”. Ron is a bobble head doll that looks exactly like me. I took a selfie of ron/ron, if you would like a copy I will send it. Ron is really good at shaking his head yes. It is an amazing, and rather wonderful likeness of a white haired retiree.
“Life is Finite while knowledge is Infinite” (Zi)

RMLA
Dr. Serageldin, and Library are still moving along like a research methods tsunami. We currently have 48 centers participating in the Research Methods Library of Alexandria program. The RMLA is one of the largest and most comprehensive research methods sites on the Web. It is a one stop shopping center for budding researchers to find answers to their research methods and statistical questions. The Library of Alexandria has prepared a beautiful “button” that can be placed on any web site. A research can click on to this and be whisked to the Library of Alexandria to answer their questions. If your university/library would like to be a Regional Center Library of Alexandria, please contact Eugene at evgeniy.shubnikov@gmail.com. We hope to see buttons in every country.

CAJGH needs your help!!!
The Central Asian Journal of Global Health (cajgh.pitt.edu) is a more "traditional" arm of RMLA and the Supercourse effort. Faina Linkov is the head editor of the Journal. CAJGH is one of the first mentored journals. Instead of rejecting paper with major weaknesses, we are working with the authors to develop papers of publishable quality in case the idea is good, but writing needs help. Please send your papers to our journal. It does not cost anything to publish your paper at CAJGH and we look forward to your submissions. Please submit your papers through our website cajgh.pitt.edu or via email.

10th Year Anniversary Crash Course on Concepts of Epidemiology The popular 5-day course returns for its 10th consecutive year! ‘Concepts of Epidemiology’ offers professionals an opportunity to rapidly learn the principles and methods of epidemiology for enhanced research and practice.

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Dates: 8-12 December 2014
Venue: University of Edinburgh
Website: http://www.crfr.ac.uk/epidemiology
Further details: Diane White - cphs.epicourse@ed.ac.uk

Best Regards,
Ron, Faina, Eugene, Francois, Nicolas, Ismail, Vint, Kawkab, Ali, Olga, Maria, Eman, Kyle, Aym, Rob, Ohanyido, Nabil, Mita, Olga, Gil, Eric Sholpan, Maria, Shalkar, Ghassan