

Supercourse Newsletter

Supercourse, BA SuperHelp Desk

<http://ssc.bibalex.org/helpdesk/introduction.jsf> (BA SuperHelp desk)

<https://www.facebook.com/TheBaSuperhelpDesk?ref=hl> (BA SuperHelp Facebook)

Oct. 2, 2013

Dear Friends

We have no government. Hmm, things seem to be working better!!

Help Desk:

We received in the past 2 weeks 3 questions to our help desks. We would appreciate your help answering the questions and whispering in the ears of graduate students and assistant professors "Publish or Perish"

I met a very bright young person, Hani Farouk A. Mohmaed, who is developing the eHealth program at WHO EMRO. The World Health Organization, the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office has recently established the "Innovation and eHealth". The IEH unit and the Regional director has engaged a regional eHealth taskforce composed of experts with extensive knowledge and experience in the development and use of eHealth. This expert group recommend actions necessary for the region to catch up with, and promote, eHealth for the benefit of public health. The first sub-regional meeting by IEH was conducted in Jun 2013 covering three main

topics: i) eHealth data standards and interoperability; ii) Utilizing the WHO-ITU eHealth strategy development toolkit; and iii) Discuss the regional initiative to develop dedicated and reliable national HealthNets.

There is a great eHealth List serve that you can join. Please write to Hani at faroukh@who.int. Also, it is important to note that Hani has been labeled (by me) as the LeBron James of WHO he heads "eTeam WHO" in the next Olympics. He loves his basketball!

Facebooking: I swore I would never do this, but indeed I have. I am starting to use Facebook, and have two invaluable teachers, Eman Eltahlawy, from Egypt, and Maria Abuto. I thank my two senseis for helping to teach a gray haired old person. Anyways please write to me...I would like to "friend" you, (I never thought that "friend" could be a verb). I plan to put the newsletter onto Facebook. My first post ever.

"Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see a shadow" (Keller)

Halloween is coming. Last year we discussed the major concern of the epidemiology of Zombies. Sadly I have not seen any new publications in the area. In the next issue, we will be taking on potentially a much more serious issue, the epidemiology of "ghost whisperers". Do not read the next newsletter if you are frightened about epidemiologists talking to the dead.

"I cannot even imagine where I would be today were it not for that handful of friends who have given me a heart full of joy. Let's face it, friends make life a lot more fun" "Swindoll"

Epidemiology and Face Recognition: The tools for face recognition are becoming better and better. We would love your thought about how this can be used in epidemiology. We were thinking that at the time of a disaster one could very cheaply identify bodies. Eman suggested a very interesting idea in using face recognition to identify homeless children. A friend of mine indicated that face recognition is being used in dating sites so that people can find others who look like them. For me this is really scary, I would never want to go out with a gray haired, slightly ugly epidemiologist who looked like me. Jan Dorman (my wife) is far better looking than Ronette LaPorte. For the Oedipal researchers one could find a date that looked like your mother (only kidding). I have taught 1000s of students, it is embarrassing when I do not know their names. What about if my Google glasses rapidly recognized the former student coming to me, and flashed their name on my glasses. It would be much better than what all of us do, "Hi, how are you?" or look down at my toes pretending I do not see them.

"Even if you fall on your face, your still moving forward" (Kiam)

Article of the week

The impact of global institutions on National Health HIV/AIDS Policy Making in Developing Countries.

<http://cajgh.pitt.edu/ojs/index.php/cajgh/article/view/27/91>

New article from Zhanat Mokushev explores the relationship of global institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organization, World Bank, and individual developing countries in social health policy making in terms of HIV and AIDS. Authors examined the role of IGOs and NGOs in regarding to HIV/AIDS issues then analyzed the TRIPs agreement as a tool for developing countries to negotiate with International organizations in global health policy decisions.

Central Asian Journal of Global Health is looking forward to your submissions!!!

Faina's lecture of the week

We have a wonderful new lecture from NIOSH!

NIOSH Respirator Post Certification Overview and Fire Fighter Fatality/Injury Program Overview
The Post Certification process at the National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL) goes hand in hand with the Certification process. Respirator manufacturers submit their respirator for testing and approval, and they must submit their quality control plan for review and approval. Once a NIOSH approval is granted, the Post Certification process ensures the respirator continues to be produced consistently, and that it continues to meet the standards upon which approval was granted.

To learn more about the program, please visit

<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec50831/index.htm>

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

Best Regards,

Ron, Faina, Eugene, Francois, Nicholas, Gil, Mita, Ismail, Eric, Kawkab, Vint, Ali, Olga, Shalkar,
Sholpan, Maria, Eman