

Supercourse Newsletter  
15 January 2006

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Dear Friends:

The time is always right to do what is right.  
*Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Schools of Global Health: It appears that the "time is right" to create Honda CRX models of Schools Global Health. I received many letters from people who wanted to join. Scientists from 26 countries expressed an interest. If we start with a certificate course this would be 15 hours for the certificate. Fifteen hours is about 5 courses. A general work load for faculty world wide is about 4 courses, therefore to teach the courses in any university is slightly over 1 full time equivalent instructor. This could be 4 associate professors teaching a course or two each.

We have suggested the SGH not be in medical schools as health is both global and interdisciplinary. Take the Bam Earthquake, engineers, psychologists, nutritionists, business etc, were needed as much as surgeons.

We would like to find the best teachers, at that best Universities in countries, and create an honors program in Global Health to attract the best students. If we limit students to a small number, there would be competition to join.

It would take about 2 weeks to create a backbone curricula for the program. We envision a generic Supercourse of prevention. However, depending upon the interest a program could specialize, e.g. in Tehran, Earthquake disasters, in Sri Lanka, Tsunamis, in Turkey, Avian Flu, Environmental health, etc.

The primary teacher need not be an expert in prevention as the Supercourse would provide all the curricula materials. Moreover, we would provide 24 x 7 help desk support. Many of our global faculty are willing to answer. Within a short period of time the help desk would not be needed.

Virtually all the teaching would be done within say the University of Cambodia. However, we are considering establishing web casting lectures, or PowerPoint linked with voice as not these are very inexpensive.

A primary goal of these Global Health schools is to create a global network of faculty, thus faculty teaching in Vietnam would be in connected with those in Paris, Melbourne, Novosibirsk and Rwanda. We also want to do the same for the students, as the students would not only be at their local university, but they would also be students of the world.

There has been some suggestion that the students can do internships in centers world wide. This may be costly. What might be better is if these students did internships in Ministries of Health.

The certificates could from the Schools, or from the Supercourse. It is unlikely that the certificates could be from an American University. The Uni. Pitts charges \$750/hour or over \$10,000. We might be able to link with the UN or WHO. We would appreciate your thoughts. The goal is to make all schools self sufficient, with the global faculty acting as "coaches".

It is very exciting as a center in Shanghai already has funding to make this move forward.

Tribal Health Schools:

Dean Seneca from the CDC had a great idea that could have implications for many other populations. He suggested that we develop Tribal Health Schools as part of the Indian Health Service in the US. He also suggested that these schools could be models for indigenous colleges world wide. Indigenous populations often have major health problems. In addition there are few people from indigenous populations working in the area of health. If you are interested in helping to develop this, please let Dean and I know.

Building the Schools:

As can be seen it is indeed possible to establish schools of Global Health. We need to create a business model before we can develop these to make sure that we have a sustainable source of funding.

Please help: If you are interested in developing a SGH, or if you have any comments, please send a note to [ronaldlaporte@gmail.com](mailto:ronaldlaporte@gmail.com)

Onward to teaching the world

Human salvation lies in the hands of the creatively maladjusted.  
Martin Luther King, Jr.

I appreciate all the extremely creative people in the Supercourse

Remember:

1. you can now download the Supercourse lectures in Powerpoint.
2. Wendy developed the Google search engine so it will search inside the slides
3. If you are consider training in Global Health and Epidemiology consider Pittsburgh ([ronaldlaporte@aol.com](mailto:ronaldlaporte@aol.com))

Ron, Dean, Faina, Mita, Soni, Eugene, Ali, Rania, Abed, Wen, Yang, Saida, Julia, Shai, Tomoko, MD, Mutsuk, Khaled

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