

Supercourse Newsletter
October 22, 2004

www.pitt.edu/~super1/
www.bibalex.org/SuperCourse/
www.bibalex.org/english/initiatives/SupercourseArchive.htm

Friends,

Trick or Treat:

We are on the verge of having Halloween. Little "munchkin" kids come up to our house almost all dressed as either Spiderman or famous Epidemiologists (they demand apples instead of candy). We wish you could be here.

Supercourse quality control:

Over 15 Supercourse faculty members expressed their interest in the Supercourse Quality Control research, conducted by Faina for her dissertation project. We are pleased to announce that 7 faculty members from 6 countries already finished their reviews. We would like to thank doctors Richard Clapp (USA), Michele Cazaubon (France), A.K. Avasarala (India), Zulema Fuentes (Cuba), Abir Youssef (UK), David Apsey (USA), and Zhou Xiaming (China) for their time and support of our project. This information is invaluable for the future development of the Global Health Network Supercourse effort. Thank you very much! More updates on this research will be coming up soon.

APHA:

Faina will be doing an oral presentation on quality control at the annual APHA meeting in Washington DC. The title is "Epidemiology on the Web: Assessing the Quality of Internet Based Lectures", taking place on 11/09/2004 at 2:30pm at WCC hotel, room 140B.

Faina will also be available at the University of Pittsburgh school booth on:

Monday, November 8th: 11:30-2:30

Wednesday, November 10th: 8:30-12:30

If you would like to meet Faina, please e-mail her at fyL1@pit.edu

2005 and 2005 in 2005

Mita made a very important observation. On Jan. 1, 2005 we may have 2005 Supercourse faculty on our roster of people, and 2005 lectures. The Supercourse continues to grow. Last month we visited the web sites of all the Schools of Public Health in the US and we wrote to every faculty member providing information about the Supercourse. Ezzeldine Sharief, is working with Samar, and we will do the same in Arab/Muslim countries, and Eugene will do this for the Former Soviet union. We want the Supercourse to be the best known program in International Health. Tell your friends about this! We think by doing this we can gather the 2000 global faculty needed to push us over the 20,000 barrier. We are also seeing if we can email to international scientists at WHO, PAHO and UNICEF. We are using the concepts marketing where we want to create a brand identify, if you think of prevention, you think of the Supercourse.

Google, Google, Google:

Google has developed a wonderful, free product of Google on your desktop. It downloads in seconds (desktop.google.com). It is amazingly powerful. If I put in the term "laporte", it will find every file on my computer that has the term "laporte" in milliseconds. It even searches your mail files. In addition, Google has produced a system of gmail (www.gmail.com) which appears to be a lot simpler, and faster than hotmail, yahoo or AOL. I am using it now as AOL views mail from our Pitt system as spam, and I miss 20% of my letters. In addition, there is a huge memory file so that you can save all your mail. Google has a lot of pizzazz now.

Pakistan:

Drs. Kazmi (Aga Khan University) and Dodani (Aga Khan and Uni. of Pittsburgh) are collaborating with our WHO Collaborating to develop a research design and methods course

in Pakistan early in February, 2005. We wanted to find faculty who might be interested in teaching about methods and statistics at the 8 day training program. What will be very exciting about this is that we will also put the lectures up on the Supercourse and potentially distribute training throughout Pakistan, but also through out the world. Please let us know if you would be interested to be a global Supercourse site to train students about statistics and methods in population research.

Lecture of the week:

We have a new lecture from Dr. Kevin Gorey from Canada on Social Epidemiologic Methods in Population Health and Health Services Research.

<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec17561/index.htm>

Social epidemiology is a very important field, however it oftentimes receives very little attention. If you are interested in this exciting area, this lecture is definitely right for you.

Please, contact us if you would like to contribute additional lectures in the area of social epidemiology.

Deer and Turkey: This has been an exciting year for deer as we have now 5 in our back yard. We also have a turkey family which had 11 members. A problem is that a turkey is no match for an SUV, sadly a Tom Turkey was crushed last week.

Best regards,

Ron, Faina, Mita, Soni, Eugene, Ezzeldeen, Samar, Monica, Julia

If you would like to come off this list, please send a note to MitaL@pitt.edu