

Dear Friends

There has been significant movement. It is fun to see the Supercourse expand. Eric Marler M.A., M.D., C.M., Dip Med., FACP. has recently catalogued PowerPoint Lectures by or about Leading Scientists such as: The U.S. National Academy of Science, Noble Prize winners U.S. National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, Directors of the National Institute of Health, Nobel Laureates, Laureates of the National Medal of Science, and the National Medicine of Technology as well as Nuclear Disaster, Genetically Modified Foods, Hazardous Air Pollutants, et al. These can be found at <http://del.icio.us/EricMarlerMD> and are integrated into the Supercourse in Epidemiology, Internet and Public Health and the Science Supercourse.

Working in tandem with Eugene Shubnikov M.D. and our Supercourse team he also catalogued some 440,000 Powerpoint Lectures covering each of some 600 disciplines in Science. He has been working in all the major languages of the World Health Organization such as English, French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic, the latter 3 with the aid of Google Translate. Eric has done incredible work to develop the first library of lectures for the leading scientists of the world. This also will form the basis of continued follow up collection from these exceptional scientists. Please take a look, and enjoy the fruits of Eric's labor.

APHA

I will be at the APHA meeting and giving a presentation on Monday at 12:55. The session title is "the Future of Epidemiology" 3208.0. Come and be a Supercourse Supporter as the future of global health and epidemiology!! Let me know if you are coming as would love to talk to as many of our faculty as possible. I am dusting off some new jokes.

Epidemiologists have jobs because of death, why cannot we also share after we die? (LaPorte)
Passed away but still teaching:

During the course of the Supercourse at least 4 members of our teaching faculty team sadly died, Sir Richard Doll, Drs. Lederberg, Van Allen and Aaron. All passed prior to 2009. We checked the number of page views on their lectures for 2009. All had over 100 page views, and Drs. Doll and Lederberg had almost 200 people examining their lectures. Therefore they provided a legacy for future generations. You all might consider contributing more lectures so that when you are 6 feet under, you are still teaching budding generations of those interested in Global Health. As the saying goes "you cannot take it with you". This is especially true about PowerPoint lectures. Why not give a gift, that just keeps giving after you have had the hardest endpoint, your lectures? Sadly, all professors fall off off the life table of global health, but our lectures may be a fountain of youth and live forever. Instead of being an organ donor, you can be a lecture donor. Remember the old joke, epidemiologist may not be able to help you live longer, but they can help you chose what you want to die from.

We need to escape from our Professor silos (LaPorte)

Pitt Ted Talks:

A few weeks ago we had a blast. We ran a "Pitt Professor Talks". I got the idea as I am addicted the TED talks (www.TED.com), which are 15 minute lectures by some of the top presenters in the world. Bill Gates and Bill Clinton have presented there. Bill Gates talked about malaria, and in the middle of his talk opened a can and a 1000 mosquitoes were let loose. I presented there and after my talk a 300 pound singer belted out the blues (no one remembered me). I got interested in this as I recognized that I was an epidemiologist, I taught epidemiology, I read about epidemiology, all my friends are epidemiologists, and my wife, Jan, is an epidemiologist. (Is there something wrong with this picture?). We decided to run a Pitt Professor Talks program with 4 speakers from markedly different disciplines. Kevin Warwick was

the first speaker. He is the first human cyborg where he had a neurosurgeon implant a sensor on a nerve, and was able to run a computer with this. He also put a sensor in his wife, and he could feel in his mind when she clenched her hand. I presented on the Supercourse, then we had a wild lawyer Harry Flechtner singing about "International Commercial law" and about Greed. Finally we had Kathleen George tell us how to write a mystery novel. It was probably the first time that 70 professors from Physics, law, engineering, medicine, etc. got together. We had most fun afterwards, as I am from Buffalo New York, we had a Buffalo chicken wing tasting contest with 6 different types. We also had a taste testing of the Beers of Buffalo You can see the talks at: <http://mediasite.cidde.pitt.edu>, click on the Graduate School of Public Health Folder to select a talk.

If any of you would like to do something similar, I would be happy to discuss this. These videoed talks are also a great marketing tool for your University. It was a wonderful way to bring people together and share our knowledge world wide. Also, wouldn't it be fantastic to collect the best videos from all Universities across the world?

Telehouse Inspection:

Is there really any difference between Telemedicine, and Telehouse inspection?

As you know as the result of our JIT lectures we have gotten skilled in providing lectures within minutes after an event. We have over 50 disaster lectures which can rapidly be modified for almost any disaster, ranging from terrorism, hurricane, wild fires, nuclear, floods, etc. The lectures are design to attack the epidemiology of fear and panic. A good friend of mine gave me a wonderful example as to the importance of the epidemiology of fear. At the time of Three Mile Island, no radiation escaped, no one died of radiation poisoning, no one even was injured due to radiation. However, 3 mile island had profound effects leading in part to the death of 1000s of pelicans, global warming, world wide recession, and filling the gulf with oil. What happened with three mile island was that almost immediately everyone feared radiation and all nuclear reactor construction ground to a halt, and many reactors died down. We became almost completely reliant on oil, and almost bankrupt the world. If we could have educated the people in the US and world, perhaps this would not have occurred.

We have been thinking how we can develop our network to aid in a disaster, to teach, and to help. We have become very interest in the use of Mobile devises for sharing supercourse lectures. For example a Supercourse App. This lead to a more radical idea. During a disaster, whether it be nuclear, earthquake, hurricane, fire, etc. one of the major concerns in housing. A family often leaves their house for fear the house may not be habitable. Being able to return to their houses brings security, and likely may reduce uncertainty and fear. However it is difficult for a frightened and untrained individual to know what to do if they see a crack in the foundation of their house. Should they stay out of their house, or go back in. We are working with the International Association of Certified Home Inspectors to develop a cell phone plus check list systems to give people an opinion if their houses are habitable. Lionel Levine is developing a cell app where we can take a picture of the house, and then send the pictures plus cell phones to the certified home inspectors to be read. This is like Telemedicine, for houses, or Telehouse inspection. If you would like to help us develop this it would be wonderful.

Everyone likes global health, So why don't we teach more students? (LaPorte).
Bringing Global Health into higher education:

As you recall a couple of months ago we sent a letter with Najeeb Shorbaji at WHO and Ismail Serageldin the director of the Library of Alexandria to all the deans of the medical and public health schools, the heads of National and Public Health Societies, and Ministries of Health indicating that we were the

promoting the teaching of Global Health, and wanted them to join. We asked them to send our letter to all the faculty, students and staff in their schools, and we received an excellent response. Round 2 will take 2 approaches. We will send the letter to you and others in our network, asking that you all distribute the letter from WHO, Library of Alexandria, and the Supercourse. In addition, we have prepared a short description of the WHO, the Global health Library of WHO, the Library of Alexandria and the Supercourse. What we have seen is that almost everybody knows about WHO, but a large proportion do not know its many roles, the same is true for the Library of Alexandria and the Supercourse. Round 4 in a few months we will send to all deans, as well as you all 3-4 slides about global health and use at least one of these in your teaching. We want to be able to double the amount of teaching of global health in all schools.

Science Supercourse: Help Wanted

Supercourse developers are partnering with the Library of Alexandria to develop Supercourse of Science, a project designed to reach beyond the fields of medicine and public health to develop repositories of lectures in the fields of health, agriculture, engineering, and disasters. In addition to providing interesting lectures, Science Supercourse is providing interesting new tools for developing you own new lectures.

Please visit the site of the project to find out more. Do not forget to register to be able to add lectures and review the content!!!

<http://ssc.bibalex.org>

Cancer teaching

In the Western World with remarkable decreases in mortality due to infectious diseases and cardiovascular causes, cancer has emerged as the number one loss of life for individuals <85 years of age. With vast increases in our knowledge based about cancer and its treatment, it is imperative that modern medical schools revamp and promote educational settings in which cancer is taught and studied. We [the Cancer Biology Training Consortium] are seeking to ascertain how cancer is taught around the world. Initially we hope to target Deans of Schools of Medicine with plans to work with institutions to define how cancer is taught.] Please contact us if you would like to contribute to this project.

lotzemt@upmc.edu

Ella: Ella, our Sheltie dog is 8 months old. She knows 25 different commands, so she is smart. The one command that does not seem to register is "poop". If you all have any hints as to how to house break a cute little dog, please let me know at (ronlaporte@aol.com). I was thinking that you could also put the first dog housebreaking lecture into the supercourse!

Faina's Pick of the week: Integrating past with present. Earthquake scenarios

<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec40041/index.htm>

The new lecture from Walter Hays raises important issues in disaster preparedness and mitigation. The lecture discusses importance of issues like community preparedness, risk assessment, and other earthquake related issues. The theme of disaster preparedness is very interesting for large proportion of the Supercourse network. If you are interested in donating materials on disasters, please email them to super1@pitt.edu

As always, our preferred format is annotated PowerPoint files.

Eric, Ron, Faina, Mita, Francois, Eugene, Nicholas, Jesse, Ali, Kawkab, Meredith, Ismail, Vint, Gil

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