

Supercourse Newsletter

Oct. 11, 2009

www.pitt.edu/~super1/

www.bibalex.org/SuperCourse/Index.htm

www.bibalex.org/english/initiatives/SupercourseArchive.htm

Dear Friends:

An investment in knowledge pays the best interest. B. Franklin

Dean and Minister Fishing:

We are about to complete our fishing exhibition for Deans. They are pretty easy to catch as they swim on the web in many places. Soon they will be done, and we would like your advice as to how to approach them.

We plan to write to each dean and ask them to send a message about the Supercourse to all their faculty and students. It will be exciting to see if we can reach most of the deans in the Medical, Public Health and Nursing schools, and have them forward our message to their faculty and students.

We also discovered that there is no listing of the Ministers of health on the so after we finish our Dean Fishing we plan to go Minister Fishing.

We would very much appreciate if you know anyone in your Ministry who would be interested in distributing information about the Supercourse to all those in your Ministries of health. Please let us know if you would like to join our team of Dean and Minister fisher men and women.

We are also working with the Library of Alexandria to fish for deans of Agriculture. Eugene Shubnikov will be visiting the Library to train a group of graduate students of Agriculture fishing.

By the early part of 2010, we might be able to almost double our global network of members of the Supercourse. If you have any thoughts please write to me at ronaldlaporte@gmail.com

When the best leader's work is done the people say, "We did it ourselves"

Lao Tzu

State Department:

Last week I had the chance to go with Vint Cerf to the State Department.

They were very impressed with the Supercourse and what we have developed.

One person said "the US government does not have anything like this". It was a very good feeling. They are potentially interested in supporting part of the infrastructure for the

Supercourse which would be quite important for me as much of the Support for the Supercourse comes from Ron and Jan's bank account. We would like your thoughts about how we can work with the State Department and other governments as the Supercourse has been successful because we are not political, yet at the same time we cannot survive without funding. We asked many of you as to how we can give credit to the US. Fifty percent indicated that we can just put the logo on our site. One person indicated that should make the US logo smaller than ours. Several others suggested that it would be better to include the US logo with other supporters, e.g. the Swiss government, etc.

There was also the idea that we not include a logo but just say "thank you to US AID". The final person indicated that we should not include the US government at all. One thing that is very important is to indicate that the content is from the scientists, and influenced by any government or agency.

Gates Award: Siamak Alikhani from Iran sent to us a advertisement for the Gates Awards, and suggested that the Supercourse be nominated. If any of you would like to nominate the Library of Alexandria-WHO collaborating center Supercourse, it would be most appreciated. The nomination process is simple. Please contact ronaldlaporte@gmail.com

The only real failure in life is not being true to the best one knows.
Buddha

Fall in Pittsburgh: This is the most beautiful time of year as the leaves begin to change, and there is a crispness in the air. It is also a little sad as we have to put Benson to sleep and he is off to doggy heaven, a 110 year old puppy.

Faina 's Lecture of the week

We are very fortunate to have a new lecture on fluoridation from Robert J.

Weyant, DMD, Dr PH, which overviews the history of water fluoridation in the US, as well as the epidemiology of dental caries before and after water fluoridation activities. Interestingly, the incidence of caries has been increasing sharply from 1000AD to early 20th century. In 1600-1800, dental caries was one of the major causes of death. Fortunately, water fluoridation, which is one of the top 10 public health achievements identified by CDC, was able to play a major role in the reduction of dental caries and it made this disease progress more slowly. Please visit this lecture to find out more at:

<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec36031/index.html>

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