

Supercourse Newsletter

[www.pitt.edu/~super1/](http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/)

Jan. 13, 2012

Please forward this to everyone you know in Russia and Central Asia, and those who believe in Dragons.

### **Central Asia Supercourse**

We have just begun the Central Asia Supercourse. USAID kindly provided to us a small amount of funding to begin to bring more information about global health and prevention to Central Asia and to help build research capacity. We are thus building a Central Asian Supercourse. We have been amazed at the progress so far. What is wonderful is that on October 1, we had 60 members from the 5 Central Asian Countries, now we have 217, a 360% increase. We hope to have many more in the network by the end of the year. There are many more who have heard about us, for example, Altyn Aringazina, M.D. distributed our information about the CA Supercourse to 150 students and faculty at KZ school of public health. We hope that you will do the same. If you have contacts in Central Asia, please send us their names and email addresses.

“Everything has its beauty, but not everyone sees it.” (Confucius)

### **Giving Birth to Scientific Journals**

We are also making significant progress in the establishment of a high quality scientific journal for Central Asia. Faina Linkov is working in partnership with Nazarbayev University and with members of our Pittsburgh library to establish a top quality journal on Global Health and Central Asia. This will be an open access Internet Journal. We plan to launch this in the spring. Also, after we grow the journal with Nazarbayev University we plan to hand it off to them, and to the region. We know that many people inside Central Asia and outside will be very interested in participating in this journal. Nicholas Padilla from our group is also beginning an Internet Latin America global health journal. You can contact Faina Linkov ([faina.linkov@gmail.com](mailto:faina.linkov@gmail.com)) to join in the development of Central Asia journal and Nicholas Padilla ([padillawarm@gmail.com](mailto:padillawarm@gmail.com)) to help develop the Latin American Journal. For both we will collect PowerPoint lectures about the articles so that the materials can immediately be brought into the classrooms of the world. We also would like your comments as to how we can best engage people in your country.

Interest to Supercourse lectures continue to grow. Recently a mirror server was created at Stavropol Medical Academy, <http://stgma.ru/supercourse/>. Within 20 days it attracted more than 500 people from the Stavropol region. The major developer of this is Karen Amlaev, the initiator of a mirror server and the author of 15 lectures in the frame of Supercourse. If you create a free mirror server of the Supercourse, the world will come to your center. To create a mirrored server, please contact Eugene Shubnikov ([eshubn@mail.ru](mailto:eshubn@mail.ru)). Karen and Eugene plan to expand these efforts throughout the FSU.

Also, it would be wonderful if you would consider including one of your own lectures into the Supercourse. We want to have as many lectures as possible from your country. They can be in

English or Russian, or any other language. We are moving forward with our family building the Supercourse network in Central Asia and the world.

### **2011, a very good year, Onward to the year of the Dragon, 2012**

We are very pleased with 2011 and the growth of the Supercourse. During the course of 12 months, we developed 36 initiatives in the area of global health and prevention. These projects ranged from teaching the world the definition of global health, cracking through the 5000 lecture barrier, starting a Central Asia Supercourse, working with the EU CAREN project, sharing Supercourse Calendars with the world, Mobile Global Health, meeting the president of Turkmenistan, starting an Art Supercourse, and many others. It is amazing what a group of 50,000 likeminded people can dream up, and actually do to improve the health of the world. We look forward to working with you in this the year of the Dragon, 2012 The Supercourse Magic Dragon will continue to roar. It has been an honor for us to work with you.

“Puff, the Magic Dragon, lived by the sea, and frolicked in the Autumn Mist in a land called Honah Lee, little Jacky Paper loved that rascal Puff, and gave him strings and sealing wax and other fancy stuff.” (Yarrow)

**Lecture of the Week:** In the past 4 months Supercourse has been rapidly growing in the countries of Central Asia. One of the best lectures that we have from this region is a contribution from Tajik State Medical University in the country of Tajikistan (<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec45371/index.htm>). This lecture is very important, as it describes both the country and the institution. We have, for example, lectures on the History of PAHO and NIH. We would love to include a PowerPoint lecture about your center and/or your research so the world can see it.

For our collaborators from Central Asia and other Russian speaking countries, please do not forget to visit our collection of over 150 Russian lectures:  
<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/national/LecturesRussian.htm>

Please teach every student **“What is Health?”**

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

Poster of What is Health: <http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/globalhealth/What%20is%20Health.htm>

Best Regards,

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