

Supercourse Newsletter
www.pitt.edu/~super1/
Jan. 29, 2013

Neologism from the Greek (neo=new/Logos=word). A neologism is a new word.

Yes friends, we the supercourse are proud that we created a Neologism, a new word. The new word of the Supercourse is Stataphobia, and it is ringing the world. Last night I started to get some strange messages.

Then I discovered that the world was told by the BMJ that we “coined” a new word. Over 150,000 people now have heard the new Supercourse word. I am about to nominate Stataphobia as the Supercourse word of 2013. Here is the BMJ short article.

How “stataphobia” is preventing publication BMJ 2013; 346 doi:

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.f366> (Published 22 January 2013)

Stataphobia- An abnormal fear of research design and statistics-prevents publication, tenure and scientific cognition. The Library of Alexandria Super Research Methods Help Desk in Egypt aims to help researchers in the developing world get published in major journals. A scientist in Russia will screen questions before inviting you to enter a “research door”.

Once through you will be given access to relevant lectures and materials, and 20 international experts from the research world will be on hand to answer questions. Expansion of the service may follow in other Arab Countries and central Asia. For more information contact Ron LaPorte at ronaldlaporte@gmail.com.

Since we were so successful in creating a new word, our new word for February is: Superamor (love of the supercourse)

What an exciting few weeks, first Dr. Serageldin publishes about the Library of Alexandria help desk in Nature, then we identify and name the most important mental illness of academia, Stataphobia, and finally without our knowledge, the BMJ tells the world about our neologism (and potentially the next Noble prize) and how we will prevent this horrific disorder.

Impossible is a word to be found only in the dictionary of fools (N. Bonaparte)

Position at WHO:

WHO is looking to hire the director of Non Communicable diseases at WHO EMRO. If I were not locked into Pittsburgh, I would apply for this!

The vacancy notice is available at the following URL address:

https://erecruit.who.int/public/hrd-cl-vac-view.asp?intra=1&jobinfo_uid_c=26979&vacIng=en.

Meanwhile, all applicants are encouraged to apply online via WHO's e-Recruitment website at the following URL: <http://www.who.int/employment>

NCD Supercourse Youtube contest

Dear Students of Global Health. Last semester I taught a class on NCD epidemiology. As part of the assignment students developed fabulous youtube videos. It was such a wonderful

experience the Supercourse has decided to open this up to the students of the world. We will hold a global NCD youtube reality show contest. Please develop a youtube video on NCD epidemiology and prevention. Please tell your friends about the youtube video context. We will then open these up for all to vote on. Here are the NCD videos that my class developed.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MC7dN8sYM8&feature=youtu.be>

This is a video developed by Stephanie Kruchten which produced a fascinating video called chronic disease Disney. She neatly pointed out that the “bad” characters in Disney had bad life style habits

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JzuGVq0t3E4>

This is the story of Jack and Lily, sadly bad Lily passed away due to her risk factors, however, her spouse had a second chance to help her with her risk factors.

<http://youtu.be/XZl8vMdkH7U>

The final video is on injury prevention in this electron age of computers and cell phones.

Please share with students of the world.

Groundhog day and global warming:

Groundhog Day is a day celebrated on February 2. According to folklore, if it is cloudy when a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day, then spring will come early; if it is sunny, the groundhog will supposedly see its shadow and retreat back into its burrow, and the winter weather will continue for six more weeks.

(Wikipedia)http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Groundhog_Day - cite_note-folklore-1

Punxsutawney Phil, is the ground hog who does the prognostication. There is considerable evidence for global warming. However to my knowledge no one has looked at the most important evidence for global warming, “What does Phil say”? For the past 40 years, 90% of the time Phil predicted 6 more weeks of winter. Therefore despite all climate data suggesting global warming, Phil says no, the world is getting colder.

Site of the week: Homelessness Supercourse

<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/globalhealth/homelessness.htm>

We have built one of the largest collections of lecture materials, and apps about homelessness. It is our belief that the greatest disparities in health occur with the homeless, yet they are often ignored. We have some outstanding lectures on the history of homelessness, and the health effects of homelessness. Please share these with your students, colleagues and friends.

"Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity" (WHO) Best Regards, Ron, Faina, Eugene, Francois, Nicholas, Gil, Mita, Ismail, Eric, Kawkab, Vint, Ali, Olga