

Supercourse Newsletter  
June 2, 2012  
[www.pitt.edu/~super1/](http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/)

“Start a huge, foolish project, like Noah...it makes absolutely no difference what people think of you.” Rumi

**Death of Scientific journals:** In 1995 we published a very controversial piece in the BMJ arguing that because of the Internet, scientific journals were dead, or should be dead. However we did not know how they would meta evolve. Perhaps we do now. About 1500 people subscribe to the American Journal of Epidemiology. When we publish in AJE, perhaps 10% will read my article, or about 150 people. The journal BMJ has a circulation of 150000, when I publish there about 15000 people read my article. The goal of publish is to inform other scientists, not to make Elsevier lots of money. With our H1N1 lecture, over 50,000,000 became aware of our work, with mVETs, over 3 million. I have published 5010 articles, in Science, Nature, BMJ, Lancet, etc. Yet all the readers of my work combined are considerably lower than either our H1N1 or mVET. We translate our message to many more people. We submitted the mVET article to JAMA and were turned down. If it were published in JAMA about 20,000 people would have read it. If we put it in the Supercourse, and share it worldwide, at least 3 million people have seen it and growing. The roots of scientific publication are dissemination, not to get tenure. Lectures and viral sharing using social marketing may be the new scientific communication.

#### **Come Visit Kazakhstan with us**

Center for Life Sciences at Nazarbayev University, and the University of Pittsburgh, with the support of USAID, will be holding a workshop titled "Introduction to Research Methods in the Era of the Internet" on research design and statistical methodology in public health and medicine. The venue of the workshop will be Nazarbayev University, Astana, Kazakhstan, July 9-13, 2012. The aim of the workshop is to include scientific productivity and encourage scientific networking in countries of Central Asia, including Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan. Some of the topics covered in the course will include: research methods, introduction to epidemiology, basic biostatistics, and how to publish your work. We anticipate participation of young and promising researchers, scientists, and doctoral students from Kazakhstan and other Central Asian countries. We would also very much like students from other countries to attend. Detailed information about the workshop and application information can be obtained by contacting Faina Linkov ([faina.linkov@gmail.com](mailto:faina.linkov@gmail.com)) at the University of Pittsburgh and Shalkar Adambekov ([sadambekov@nu.edu.kz](mailto:sadambekov@nu.edu.kz)) at Nazarbayev University. Cost of attending is free; however, you are responsible for the travel.

“What you seek is seeking you.” Rumi

### **Come Publish with Us Global Health:**

As you may know, we in the Supercourse team are starting a new journal, The Central Asian Journal of Global Health (CAJGH). It is going to be an Official Journal of the Global Health Network Supercourse project. We want this to become the highest rated journal in Central Asia and one of the highest rated journals in the world. We are planning a special Inaugural Issue on: "Public health, medicine and bioengineering for Central Asia and the world." This issue will examine issues related to health, medicine, and bioengineering in Central Asia and how these relate to Global Health. We encourage submissions in various areas relating to global health including, Medicine, Public Health, Pharmacology, Biomedical Engineering, Epidemiologic Studies, Disasters and disaster mitigation, agriculture, and global health libraries. Please visit our website [cajgh.pitt.edu](http://cajgh.pitt.edu) for more information. The deadline for article submissions for the inaugural issue is June 20, 2012. If you cannot submit the article through the online system, please send it via email to Faina Linkov ([faina.linkov@gmail.com](mailto:faina.linkov@gmail.com)) and Sholpan Askarova ([sholpa74@yahoo.com](mailto:sholpa74@yahoo.com)) with the subject "article for submission." This is an open access journal with no fee for publication. Please send this call for papers to your friends and colleagues. We are looking forward to your submissions!

### **Epidemiology Crash course**

Concepts of Epidemiology: seventh crash course 10th-14th of December 2012, Edinburgh, UK. <http://www.lifelong.ed.ac.uk/epidemiology/>

This is the eighth 5-day crash course in Epidemiology for those who want to lay a sound foundation to their knowledge of epidemiology, particularly as it relates to public health practice, policy and research. It is most suitable for people in the health professions, such as nurses, doctors, health promoters, health policy makers, and health researchers. Social sciences, statistics, and health management colleagues may also find the course useful. It is headed by Professor R.S. Bhopal, a wonderful researcher and educator.

When you do things from your soul, you feel a river moving in you, a joy."  
— Rumi

### **mVET and Death with Valor**

I wanted to appreciate your help with mVET. It was a major success with the message of mVET and Death with Valor seen by over 3 million people. It rapidly went viral. The major goal of mVET is to cut the exceedingly high mortality of homeless vets in half in 5 years, and to help all homeless vets to die with Valor. We want the world to view the death of a homeless vet as a Fallen Hero, which we too should honor. <http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/globalhealth/homelessness.htm>

"Do not be satisfied with the stories that come before you. Unfold your own myth."  
Rumi

*"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,  
Meredith

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