

Supercourse Newsletter
April 13, 2003

www.pitt.edu/~super1
www.bibalex.org/SuperCourse/
www.bibalex.org/english/initiatives/SupercourseArchive.htm

The Golden Lecture is getting brighter:

159 days and counting

The golden lecture is beginning to look like a rising sun. It is getting bigger and brighter to illuminate the world about prevention. The new mantra of the Supercourse is "Teach a million". We now have over 20 countries participating, and we look for those of you who might want to take the lead in your country.

Faina is now working on her third draft of the golden lecture of prevention. It is really good, with authors from many countries from across the world, including a Nobel Prize winner, leaders in epidemiology and the Internet and people who just write great lectures. It will be about 25 slides long. It will be "light" so that everyone can receive it.

We want to set the stage for distribution of other lectures. Wouldn't it have been great if we would have had this in place so we could distribute Just In Time Lectures about SARS, so this could be taught in our classroom as there just is not much good science in our newspaper.

Fred Muwanga has been substantial progress in identifying distribution channels in Swaziland and all of Africa. He has identified NGOs that distribute free educational materials throughout africa. In addition, he has been in contact with WHO in Swaziland who are most interested in joining the golden lecture. Great work Fred. Please send to us any approaches that you plan to use so that we can send your ideas to others on our list.

Next week we will send the lecture to the 60 or so people who wanted to be main distributors of the lecture in their country. (We would love to have you be a Golden Lecture Sower of Prevention). Hippocraties is smiling. It is time to consider changes to his oath...Do no harm, and spread the Golden Lecture.

Hippocraties last night decided to become a full member of the Supercourse team. We decided, however, not to allow a dead man to vote.

Internet2:

We are having wonderful discussions with the Internet2 people. Vint Cerf, the father of the Internet has been very instrumental in bringing us in contact with them. Internet2 represents the next generation internet. It has 1000s of times more bandwidth than the current Internet. Currently only 202 universities world wide are connected, but now there is a major international push. It was originally funded by the National Science Foundation in the US. We have been talking with Mary Kratz, and Heather Boyles who have been extremely helpful. We see an Internet2-Supercourse faculty partnership. One aspect of this is to have on Hippocraties day not only the distribution of the lecture world wide, but also a global "meta conference". Wouldn't that be fantastic? We need to think about what to do in the meta conference, but doing this in parallel would be pushing Supercourse, and also distance education to new limits. We would love to have your thoughts about this, please send a note to ronlaporte@aol.com

USAID:

We talked with Kevin Hayes and others at USAID. It was a most interesting discussion which enlightened us as to how USAID works. In upcoming newsletters we will discuss this with you. We are also talking with the great people at USAID to see if we can generate a Supercourse Lecture on USAID so that a better working knowledge of USAID can be made available.

It is exciting times, thinking about Hippocraties on the Internet and Internet2! The Golden Lecture the "Hippocraties beneficial worm" is gearing up.

Please give us your thoughts.

Spring is the time for Sowing Pittsburgh, and world wide. We need to seed prevention.

Best regards:

Ron, Faina, Mita, Eugene, EunRyoung, Hippocrates, Akira, Julia, Soni, Abed, Rania, Beatriz, Tom, Deb