

Supercourse Newsletter
July 16, 2005

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

The Lecture Heard Around the World:

There is much excitement as Eric Noji, M.D. gets ready to teach the Cutler lecture heard “round the world” on Disasters. We would love to hit a new world record for most students taught with a single lecture. Many people are helping us now and it is very exciting. The table below presents an overview of the potential participants.

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UNICEF	PAHO	NASA	APHA
MLA	Rotary Club	World Bank	
State Department	WPRO		
Library of Alexander	CDC		
India Network	Iran		
Peacesat			
Internet2			
Cuba Ministry of Health			
PLOS			
British Medical Journal			
Chronicles of Higher Ed			
University Times (Pgh)			

Our plan is to have Eric give his lecture using traditional web casting, however, many areas are not capable to use this, so we would also put his lecture on the Supercourse as well as to push out the files in PowerPoint. The groups above agreed to help distribute the lecture on their pipelines. Also several major journals are interested in writing about it.

It is very difficult to imagine what impact this will have. This is a demonstration that a single lecture can teach a million students in ~175 countries, or 90% of the world. From our perspective this will be one of the first demonstrations of global teaching, and a harbinger of the future of education. We just got several nice offers of NGOs interesting in helping to distribute the lecture. If you can think of any other groups who might like to join, please contact us, or let us know. It can groups quite distant from public health, for example, we have found the Rotary to be most interested. Perhaps we could even push this out on industry pipes such as with Pharmaceutical companies, or IT companies such as MCI, IBM or Microsoft. Pushing it through Ministries of Health would be great as well. Won't it be wonderful to have a completely apolitical, scientific lecture teaching millions...We must really thank Eric Noji, M.D. for doing this.

Social Networking:

Marketing is becoming heavily involved with Social Networking. We have been contacted by several people to describe what we have been doing on the Supercourse. What is fascinating is that over the years we have become friends with each other, with out ever meeting. One thing that is talked about is “virus marketing”, in that individuals serve as Typhoid Mary to get others involved with their product. Many of you all have passed around the virus of the Supercourse to others. You can find a nice description of social networking in the Wikipedia at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_networking. The Internet lets us find friends all over the world.

"The difficulty is not so great to die for a friend, as to find a friend worth dying for." --[Homer](#)

Best Places to Live:

Money Magazine came out this week with the 100 best places to live in the United States of the 1000s of place. We will tell you a secret that you can never tell to any other person. Wexford, where Jan and I live was the 28 community on the list. I ask you not to tell anyone as if you do then we will have people from Hawaii, Paris, Rome, Bangkok, Rosario, LaJolla wanting to move here. It would be horrible!!! Actually there are only two primary reasons why it was rated so highly, the first is that the most serious crime in our area in the last 10 years was too much time on a parking meeting. The second reason is that we have the most beautiful Turkeys in North America. Jan and I invite you to come visit us, as long as you do not tell your friends about Wexford, the Paris of Pennsylvania.

Best Regards from the Supercourse

Ron, Faina, Mita, Eugene, Soni, Arlene, Julia, Abed

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