

Supercourse Newsletter
November 1, 2004

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

Halloween:

The Ghosts, and Spidermen, and Angels are appearing on Halloween 04. They are delivering incredible Halloween Treats. Thank you all.

20005 and 2005 by Jan. 1, 2005

Booming Faculty: We have a really good chance at hitting 20005 faculty in the Supercourse, and 2005 lectures. Last month was an incredible recruitment month. We first targeted all of the Schools of Public Health in the United States. There was enormous interest with over 3000 new people joining in just the past few months. Samar and Monica did excellent work. Izzeldin Sharief, my Sudanese brother, has done a fantastic job. He contacted 670 faculty in Arab countries. We now have by far the largest Arab/Muslim network on health. It also makes me feel very good as for me, this is one of strongest World-US-Arab collaboration, as it is based upon common, and wonderful goals. Amazingly, the total number of participants is about 18,500. To put this in context, we have about 5 times more international health people than full time people at WHO and probably 15 times more international health people than CDC. We think we can reach 20005 by Jan. 1. Would that be a buzz?

Halloween Lectures:

Eugene just told us that we have 1997 lectures. We are extremely close to reaching the magic 2005 lectures. Look in your drawer...right now...do you see any lectures sitting there, turning to green mold? Do you see some fantastic lectures that are sitting there, feeling VERY lonely as only 30 students saw them last year? Isn't it a shame, that your baby, your best lecture, is not getting the proper intellectually stimuli by being seen by so few students, when it could be seen by 20,000. Think of this, when you retire, or when you die...all of your lectures die with you. There you will be, in your casket with CDs of lectures, and memory keys, and hard drives going with you to the great beyond. Who could use your lectures better, those in the great beyond or the Supercourse students of the world. Hmmm, it seems like as the latest saying a "slam dunk" the choice is obvious. We of the Supercourse ask you...Halloween/Supercourse Trick or Treat. Your lectures or a trick!!

Using the Supercourse:

After yesterday I can attest to the power of the Supercourse. You should think about it. Jan and I are going visit Yang Ze (my Chinese Brother) in Beijing to discuss US- Chinese collaboration. I had to prepare 2 topics that I had not done before. For my diabetes lecture, I took slides from Peter Bennett, Abed Hussein, and Ingrid Libman. In about 45 minutes I constructed a lecture. Then I needed a lecture on Vital Statistics, and too Betty Jung's wonderful lecture which took about 40 minutes. Great template lectures from our faculty are wonderful. I was thinking as I was doing this as to how powerful this would be if I had little access to the literature say in Mali, Congo, or rural Pakistan. If you could provide a treat of your lecture, it would teach future generations after you became moldy!!! Think about it, a supercourse legacy lecture would let your mind live on.

BMJ:

We have kidded that editors at the BMJ as the only problem with the BMJ is the Dead English Doctors. Does anyone in Canada, Pittsburgh, or Tokyo really care about the GP who died in Manchester, England. Boring....But..on this Ghoulish, Halloween day, perhaps our treat for

you is that we can exchange a lecture, for a Supercourse tombstone. Thus if you give us your best lecture as soon as you die, we put you into the Supercourse Cemetery with a Supercourse tomb stone. You can be in the supercourse FOREVER, and the world will know that you are dead. Is obvious, by now, that we plan to compete with the BMJ for dead doctors (please do not tell Tony Delamothe at the BMJ).

You all are a great group to celebrate Halloween, 19,000 participants 1997. Remember in the post-Halloween celebration to be a lecture donor, so that you can give the gift of knowledge for future generations.

We will be in China from Nov. 3 to 16. It might be difficult to reach me. Please contact Faina Linkov (fy11@pitt.edu). I am slowly migrating to my gmail account, so please write to me at ghnetron@ghnet.com. The free gmail system looks really good.

Best regards from Pittsburgh and the world.

Ron, Faina, Mita, Soni, Goblins, Eugene, Ezzeldeen, Yang, Samar, Alfred Hitchcock, Monica

If you would like to come off this list please send a note to MitaL@pitt.edu