

Supercourse Newsletter
September 13, 2004

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

Dear Friends:

Time for another India Lunch

Ladies and Gentlemen, Eugene Shubnikov has just announced that we have 1903 lectures. We are well on our way to 2005 lectures in 2005. When Faina came in August of 2000 we had only 180 lectures. The lectures keep pouring in, and they are not good, they are WONDERFUL and we thank all of you. It is very exciting to see the continued interest. Several people are now promising to provide to us full courses. Kevin Kip from Pittsburgh has provided a full course on the introduction to epidemiology. In addition, Jan Dorman has promised to include a course on Molecular Epidemiology. If you would be interested in contributing a full course, it would be fantastic, as then you can be the teacher of the world for that course. We invite you all to come!

Recognition of the Supercourse: It is amazing how the Supercourse is being recognized. At you next scientific meeting if you are presenting to a group, please ask who has heard of the Supercourse. In the US at epidemiology and public health meetings, we have seen that 50-60% of the people know the Supercourse. It is great to see.

International Research Help Desk: Learning how to do International Research: Trans-boundary research is not easy to do. Typically Americans try to do American style research with other countries and this is often a disaster. The goal for International research should be to improve global health, e.g. life expectancy. To do this we need to find something that could prevent multiple diseases, it should be applicable throughout the world, it should be effective, it should be cheap, and it should be sustainable. We obviously think that knowledge may be the key component for improving health. We are discussing how we can help build global capacity in International research. One means would be for those engaged in International research to share experiences. It would be great if younger generations did not make the mistakes of what we have done. A second is to create a "Bill of Rights" to assure all parties "win". Often there are difficulties when we enter research due to unreasonable expectations on all sides. Finally, we have been discussing plans in Pakistan. We have seen in Pakistan that there are extremely bright scientists, who are required to publish. However, they have difficulty publishing their work due to limited capacity in Pakistan for consultation with experts in Research Design and Statistics. This is true for many other developing countries. We think it would be really cool to establish a global help desk where experts in research methods could help those who are not experts. We would love you comments. Please send to ronlaporte@aol.com

Come Visit Faina at APHA: Supercourse presence at APHA
Faina Linkov will be presenting at the APHA Annual Conference at Washington DC.
Here's the information about the presentation:
Abstract # 86414
Abstract title: Epidemiology on the Web: Assessing the Quality of Internet Based Lectures
Type of presentation: Oral
APHA Session # 4200.0
Session title: Academic Epidemiologists and Local Public Health: Building Bridges
Date, Session Start Time: 11/09/2004, 2:30pm
Hotel: WCC Room 140 B
Organizer: EPI

Faina will also be available at the University of Pittsburgh recruitment table. She would love to meet you. Faina will give you your very own Supercourse sticker to put on your name tag. In addition she will provide to you cards that you can distribute to people you know at the APHA in order to recruit others into the Supercourse. Please write to her at Fyl1@pitt.edu for more information or to set up a meeting.

Lecture of the week: Lectures on women's health topics always hold a special place in the Supercourse library, especially when the lecture on this important topic turned out to be lecture #1900. Our good friend Mohamed Ag Ayoya submitted a beautiful lecture on Malaria in Pregnancy in Sub Saharan Africa, which can be accessed at <http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec15941/index.htm>

What is so special about this lecture? Good science. One of the most important issues discussed in the lecture is the relationship between mother's anemia and infant's low birth weight. The lecture is filled with interesting facts, backed up by good research data. This lecture is perfectly suited for those interested in women's health in developing countries and infectious diseases.

Best Regards from Pittsburgh:

Ron, Faina, Mita, Soni, Eugene, Monica, Samar, Abed, Rania, Julia, Fred, Akira, Tom, Deb, Wendy

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