

Supercourse Newsletter
25 July 2005

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

Friends Thank you, very, very much

A very nice thing happened last week. I was contacted by Dr. Weiss, the president elect of the American Public Health Association epidemiology section. I was notified that I had won the Lilienfeld award for excellence in the teaching of epidemiology during the course of a career. This is the most important award I have been received. Actually it is not only my award, it is an award for the Supercourse. It is an award for all us. The most important awards in public health, I believe are not for research, but indeed for teaching. In my university as I am sure in many other universities there is the sense that we do research to obtain money, rather than we get obtain money to do research. At many of our centers there is very little reward for teaching. Your Supercourse is changing things. For our Supercourse team world wide to obtain this very important educational award from the American Public Health Association vindicates our goal to improve teaching in all of our countries. I declare that this is not my award, but it is our award, thank you for making it possible. This will be hung very proudly in my office, and I will show it to you when you come and visit with us as it is ours

“Without learning, without eyes” Lithuanian Quote

NATO Supercourse:

Faina Linkov wrote a grant to NATO and it was funded. Early in August we will be meeting in Lithuania to discuss the building of a NATO Supercourse for Disasters and Prevention. If you are from a NATO country, please write to me (ronlaporte@aol.com) if you would like to help construct a NATO Supercourse. If you know of any NATO members in your country, it would be great to get them involved. The last time I was in the Baltic countries, they were republics. I was part of a WHO Diabetes Task force. It was really cool as we were the first people for 50 years to be driven all the way from Talin to Riga and Kaunas. In each country people were showing for the first time in 50 years their native flags. It was most fascinating. Clearly things have changed a great deal, and we look forward to seeing the changes.

A smiling face is half the meal, Latvian Quote

CDC grant:

We very much appreciate all of you who wrote a letter for our CDC grant. We sent out to many of you a copy of the grant, if you would like a copy of it, please write to me (ronlaporte@aol.com). The grant is most interesting as we focus on breaking down the silos of public health by developing cooperation, collaboration and education for the various pockets of public health include academia, ministries of health, military, schools, NGOs, all of whom do not talk very much to each other. We are not sure what will happen with the grant as most of Public Health Informatics in the US revolves around the Electronic Health Record, and Symptomatic Surveillance. Our argument is simple, in an earthquake, HER and Symptomatic Surveillance, will not help very much, but having the various components of public health working smoothly together and learning from each other would be the most important step.

Work will teach you. Estonian Quote

Single Mothers: It is really exciting. We have a mother turkey and 4 baby "chickets" who just appeared. The mother is about the $\frac{3}{4}$ of a meter high. The babies are extremely small, about the size of a Sparrow. The babies grow very quickly, I will keep you appraised. Turkeys are darn good mothers.

Best regards from:

Ron, Faina, Mita, Soni, Eugene, Arlene, Eric, Julia, Ali, Abed, Rania

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