

Supercourse Newsletter

Jan. 8, 2011

www.pitt.edu/~super1/

Dear Supercourse Friends

Appi-demiology

Yapping for Apping: Perhaps the most exciting event occurred in Pittsburgh last Friday. The “word of the year” was crowned, and it was “**APP**”. This is wonderful as the Supercourse in 2011, will be “Yapping about Apping”. We will bring the Supercourse onto Mobile technology. Mobile technology is the future for global health and prevention. There are 6.2 billion people in the world with 4.9 billion cell phones. For the first time we in global health can reach almost everyone just by calling them. What a powerful tool for global health, prevention and education.

We are trying to build a dialogue between the experts in Mobile technology and we in Global Health. Jan and I just got Ipads and Iphones. We love these, and sometimes sit on our bed with our Iphones, talking and looking at each other with facetime. Ella our dog thinks that we are most crazy. It is a great way to learn. We have learned that we in global health do not know much about appi-demiology.

The way of the future is Appi-demiology, the use of Apps and Mobiles to epidemiology and global health. There are new and exciting approaches that could be taken. One can almost do a global survey study. The surveys could be machine translated into the languages of the world. Cell phones are well suited for the surveillance, we could build systems that monitor both chronic and infectious disease... Cell technology can also be effectively used at the time of disasters, to not only monitor the epidemiology of the disasters but also for long term mitigation to reduce the epidemiology of fear. Mobile technology could also be used in disasters to triage buildings. Accelerometers in cell phones can be used to monitor physical activity and falls. GPS monitoring of people is effective also for monitoring of physical activity, as well as to protect those who are demented. There are many weight loss, and smoking cessation apps. We can also build a “ask the Appi-demiologist”. I would appreciate your thoughts as to how Mobile technology can be used to build the field of Appi-demiology.

Share your Apps: Our friends, we would like recommendations for Apps, that we can tell others about. Pandora is a really cool free app. With Pandora, you put in your favorite artist. For example, I like the Beatles. Pandora will pick the best songs of the Beatles, it will also play songs with the same type of music. I was amazed, the music is exactly what I like. I would appreciate if you could send to me your favorite apps.

Apparently we love our own cell phones but we hate everyone else's (Briggs)

We have created a site of Mobile Global Health,
<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/globalhealth/overview.htm> . At the site Eric Marler has collected and categorized all the apps of global health and science.

We plan to collect a set of lectures from the Mobile community to teach us in global health, and we will do the same, a set of lectures on global health for the Mobil community.

Watching something on your cell phone seems like crazy talk to me. (Thompson)

2010: It was a very good year.

At the beginning of the year, we like to go over what you and the Supercourse team has accomplished. This has been a wonderful year. Over all we increased the numbers of faculty by 5,000 to over 50,000. We also collected 513 lectures, the most ever. Our largest effort was that we built a Global Health lecture, and shared it with you, and all the medical and public health schools, all the heads of medical and public health societies and all the Ministers of health. We taught over 6 million students with our lectures. This is most certainly the largest number taught more students about global health than any other program, ever. We also may be the best known project in global health. In addition, our H1N1 lecture was seen by 50 million people. The Library of Alexandria Supercourse of Science is about built. We have also published about 20 papers. The library of Alexandria has successfully built a Scientific Supercourse. Our effort was very cost effective, as it cost less than a penny to teach each of the millions of students.

As you know we run the supercourse on a shoe string. We are fortunate to have Apryl Eselman, and James Malezi for helping to develop a campaign for support. We very much appreciate you who have given, so far. We would appreciate if you have not supported the supercourse, that you consider this. If you would like to support, contact me (ronaldlaporte@gmail.com), and I will guide you.

World Epidemiology Congress: Don't forget to save your money to come to the World Epidemiology Congress in Scotland in August: www.epidemiology2011.com/ . For all of you who come because of the Supercourse, I will buy you a Pint, or a diet coke!

"Charles, in jail, got a call from some friend, who was complaining about low network. This friend of Charles was fed up with low quality voice and finally asked him, "How many bars are there in your cell."

Lecture of the week: New Lectures from Korea

At the end of 2010 Supercourse had only 2 lectures from Korea, however this situation is about to change. We are in the process of getting several excellent lectures from Korean Scientists, presented at the Cancer Training Course at the National Cancer Center in Korea in November 2010, organized with the help of Dr. Hai-Rim Shin. The first one of these lecture series is "National Cancer Control Program in Korea" , donated to the Supercourse by Dr. Yoo. Please visit this lecture at

<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec41041/index.htm> Dr. Shin's lecture will be featured in the next newsletter.

Best Regards

Ron, Faina, Eugene, Francois, Eric, Meredith, Mita, Soni, Vint, Ismail, Gil, Ali, Nicholas, Jesse