

Dear Statistics Friends,

Want to help African and Arabic researchers?

As you probably know research productivity in Africa is poor where only 3% of the scientific literature comes from these countries. A primary reason is that 80% of the articles in science are turned down as the result of poor statistics. We build the research methods [library of science](#) as a one stop shopping center to find answers to statistical questions. We have 1000s of lectures, materials, etc. available

Mary Shann from BU called me with a brilliant idea. She offered to donate 2000 books on research methods and statistics to the Library of Alexandria. The library was thrilled about this, and we have started to collect research methods and statistics books from across the world with the goal of reaching 10,000 books which would make the library of alexandria the largest virtual and book library in Arabic and african countries. Each of Mary's books will have a sticker on it indicating that she donated it, and BU will become a regional center for the library of alexandria.

It is most difficult to donate your books, as our books are like our babies. When I retired, I sadly pruned and tossed my books.

I would like you to look up from your computer to your book shelf. Identify the books that have not been opened in 5 years. In my case it was about 80%

Don't you think it would be better for those books to be teaching, rather than sitting there having their papers go yellow? We are therefore asking you to contribute the research methods and ,statistics books to Africa and Arab countries at the Library of Alexandria. Degroot's text book on statistics costs \$220.00, a two month salary in many African countries. Yet our unopened 5 year statistics books gather mold in our bookshelf. Perhaps you could help 19 year olds in Mali the Sudan, and Niger with your donation.

It is almost no lose. You have many text books that you have not been opened in a decade, the Library of alexandria till take these off your hands at no cost. You will be recognized at the library of Alexandria, you will get a tax break, and you will feel really, really good.

If you would like to contribute your statistics and research methods books, please tell Mary Shann shann@bu.edu or myself ronaldlaporte@gmail.com.

I am a professor emeritus of epidemiology and former director of a WHO Collaborating Center in Pittsburgh. I have 550 publications in Nature, Science, PNAS, Lancet, BMJ. Please check out this [short video](#) if you would like future information about what have developed.

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