



Cooperation of the German National Libraries – GOPORTIS

GOPORTIS gathers way



Now it's official: the cooperation of the three German National Libraries, comprised of the German National Library of Science and Technology (TIB), the German National Library of Medicine (ZB Med) and the German National Library of Economics (ZBW), will proceed under the name of "GOPORTIS". GOPORTIS supersedes the working title "Esplanade."

The name GOPORTIS was created by a naming agency. It allows several associations – port as in door, portal or harbour. "The 'Go' at the beginning suggests activity and has the character of an invitation: go to the portal and get knowledge," says Ulrich Korwitz, the director of the ZB Med. This emphasis continues in the graphic design for the logo: it draws an arc from the three decorative elements symbolising the three institutions to the word GO. "The advertising agency developed a corporate design with a harmonious colour concept that is intentionally different from the partners' existing corporate colours," explains Horst Thomsen, the director of the ZBW. Uwe Rosemann (TIB) adds: "We are very pleased. The name, including the slogan "The Knowledge Centre", of the new-found corporate identity offers the potential to realise our joint strategies and targets for the future."

The targets are ambitious: later this year a new joint portal for ordering scientific documents is to go online – an often-voiced customer request. In future, the subject areas of technology, natural sciences, medicine, nutrition, environmental science, agricultural sciences and economics can be supplied from a single source. Work on the implementation of the portal is proceeding at full speed. Each library brings its strengths and its expertise with existing systems such as TIBORDER, MedPilot and ECONIS into the project.

The portal GOPORTIS will be introduced to the public for the first time at the Online Information Conference in London in December. In 2008 the focus, besides the operation of the portal and the ordering service, will be on the further development of joint services and the further growing together of the partners.

(GOPORTIS press release)





GOPORTIS working groups

The development of GOPORTIS continued in June with numerous working group meetings. Mr Thomsen and the directors of the other German National Libraries were guests at the first meeting of the working group Organisational and Human Resources Development, where Ms Pianos and Ms Lipka represent the ZBW. This meeting took place in the ZBW in Hamburg on 13 June.

The working group Document Delivery met in Hanover on 14 and on 20 June. At both meetings the ZBW was represented by Ms Ronke.

The directors and the working group Marketing met in Hanover on 28 June, representing the ZBW were Mr Thomsen and Ms Fingerle.

vascoda

The meeting of the Executive Board of vascoda took place in Cologne on 8 June, where Mr Thomsen was present. The Executive Board of vascoda met again on 25 and 26 June for a strategy workshop in Ahrweiler.

Ms Pianos and Mr Thomsen took part in the meeting of the vascoda working group Marketing in Hanover on 21 June; Ms Pianos also attended the planning consultations of the vascoda office.

Ms Jeude from the ZBW travelled to Göttingen for a meeting of the vascoda working group Metadata on 19 June.

Further external engagements of the ZBW

The working group Information Competence within the Common Library Network (GBV) met in Hamburg on 5 June. Ms Gillam represented the ZBW.

Ms Grabsch attended the 4th meeting of the Female Speakers' Council of the study group Equal Opportunities for Men and Women within the Leibniz Association. It was held in Potsdam on 11 June.

The working group National Licences of the German Research Council (DFG) held talks in Frankfurt-on-Main. Mr Meyer represented the ZBW.

Mr Toepfer attended an international conference entitled "Knowledge by Networking – Digitising Culture in Germany and Europe", which took place on 21 and 22 June in Berlin. The conference focused on the current situation of various digitising initiatives in culture and science.

The Committee of Subject Librarianship within the Association of German Librarians (VDB) met in Tübingen on 25 and 26 June. Mr Bachofner from the ZBW attended the meeting.

On 27 June a meeting was held at the German National Library (DNB) in Frankfurt-on-Main regarding the design of long-term archiving of electronic resources within the project "kopal". Mr Weiland from the ZBW attended the meeting. Also present



were the project partners in kopal, the DNB, the SUB Göttingen and other interested institutions.

On 28 June Mr Thomsen was in Hannover for the 12th members' assembly of subito – Documents from Libraries.

Ms Wöhler and Mr Pisani attended the 79th meeting of the GBV working subgroup Journal Processing in Hanover on 28 June.

On the occasion of a management change at the Information Centre for Technology in Frankfurt-on-Main, lectures on "The Future of subject-specific Information" were given on 29 June. Mr Thomsen was present. Peter Genth, who had been the manager of the FIZ Technik since 1978, was replaced in this function by Ursula Deriu, who has been co-manager for more than a year.

Lectures

Ms Pianos gave a lecture entitled "From Ethnology to Economics: Subject-specific gateways to American-related resources in vascoda, the science portal" to the annual meeting of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA).

Ms N. Krüger presented the Online Reference Service EconDesk of the ZBW, and its underlying software system QuestionPoint, to colleagues from the Berlin State Library – Prussian Cultural Heritage on 4 June.

Events in the ZBW

ZBW Foundation Council

On 27 June, the Foundation Council of the ZBW met for its first regular session. The constituent session was held in December 2006.

Exhibition

Since 11 June, works of the artist Marianne Harms-Metzger can be viewed at the show "The Power of Colour".

Current ECONIS Select lists

Literature lists were compiled for the following current topics in economics and economic policy:

- Safeguarding the self-employed in the Social Insurance System
- Growth and change in Africa
- Railway privatisation

Next monthly ZBW newsletter ++ Double issue July/August++ Coming in September

