

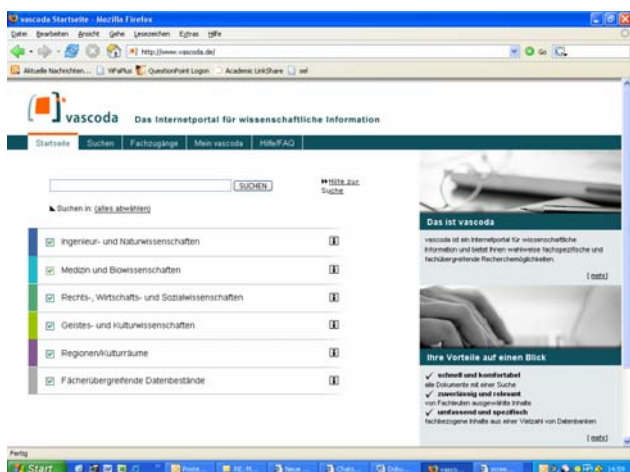


The ZBW in
November 2007

The ZBW is a "Landmark in the Land of Ideas"

On 15 November the ZBW learned that it has been chosen as a "Landmark in the Land of Ideas" for 2008. Thus it is a part of the event series "365 Landmarks in the Land of Ideas", a project-partnership between the nation-branding initiative "Germany – Land of Ideas" and Deutsche Bank. To mark the award, the ZBW will host an Open Evening at its two branches in Kiel and Hamburg. The director of the ZBW, Horst Thomsen, comments: "I am very proud of this award. It is an acknowledgement of our work. We provide services for the economic knowledge of the future, and our online reference service EconDesk is one of many ideas."

vascoda – new design, improved functions



On 26 November, the official relaunch of the vascoda website took place in Bonn in the presence of Mr Thomsen, Ms Pianos and Mr Meyer. The website presents many new functions and improvements. It is barrier-free, easy to navigate and has a clear design. The contents of more than 100 databases were integrated with a new search engine technology. It offers convenient search options such as individual sorting and filtering of results lists.

Head of the ZBW Administration voted speaker of the WGL Administration Committee

Mr Ralf Kopischke, head of the joint administration of the Kiel Institute for the World Economy and the ZBW, has been voted speaker of the Administration Committee of the Leibniz Association on 22 November. The committee consists of the administrations of the 83 member institutions of the Leibniz Association. The office is tied to a seat on the executive committee of the Leibniz Association and is held for two years. Re-election is possible.





Events in the ZBW

Goportis – Roadshow of the directors of the German National Libraries

On 12 and 13 November, Mr Korwitz and Mr Rosemann, directors of the ZB MED and TIB respectively, presented their libraries to the staff members of the ZBW in Hamburg and Kiel as part of a Goportis Information Event. The director of the ZBW, Mr Thomsen, then described the rationale, progress and purpose of the Goportis project. He emphasised the main motives for cooperating in Goportis: the demands of customers, in particular customers from business, who want full service from a one-stop shop, the demands of politics and not least the libraries' own strategy which envisions coping with future challenges through common efforts.

Numerous meetings of the various working groups were held in preparation for the portal's presentation at the "Online Information 2007" conference in London in December.

Economics: web-based publication platform for economics

Ms Werner-Schwarz, head of the E-Journal Center, held a lecture about the new publication of the Kiel Institute for the World Economy in front of its Economics Club at the end of November. The ZBW had a very good reason for hosting this event in its reading room: it is the institute's project partner for this Open Access, Open Assessment E-Journal.

Leading Thinkers in Global Economic Affairs

Professor Sir Partha Dasgupta, Ph.D. (Cambridge University, UK) and Professor Scott Barrett, Ph.D. (Johns Hopkins University, Washington D.C.) were invited as this year's Leading Thinkers in Global Economic affairs to lecture on "Long-term Challenges of Climate Change to the Global Economy" on the ZBW's premises.

Success through better communication and organisation: series of lectures

On 15 November, Mr Detlef Jansen of INtem held a lecture entitled "Effective self-management – from desire to quantifiable and inspiring goals" as part of a series of lectures "Success through better communication and organisation" which will be held until March at the Hamburg branch.



Detlef Jansen - INtem





Selected external engagements of ZBW staff members in November

- 05/11, Rendsburg: Meeting of the DBV Regional Section – Mr Seusing
- 09/11, Konstanz: Workshop on Information Literacy – Lecture by Ms N. Krüger: "EconDesk: Getting the content of need at the point of need"
- German National Library in Frankfurt-on-Main: Sun Summit Libraries about repositories – Mr Borst, Mr Langer, Mr Weiland
- 13/11-15/11, Montpellier: Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the journal "Communications&Strategies", focussing on digital economies – Ms Preisl
- 20/11, Hanover: Meeting of the TIB Advisory Board – Mr Thomsen
- 22/11, Göttingen: 13th Annual Meeting of the Leibniz Association – Mr Thomsen
- 21/11 and 22/11, Institute for Labour Market and Occupational Research, Nuremberg: Lecture by Mr Meyer "EconBiz"
- 20/11-22/11, Hürth: Annual meeting of European Information Networks in Germany – Ms Walter
- 21/11 Berlin: Workshop of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology "Monitoring the information industry" – Ms Preisl
- 23/11 Hamburg: Meeting of the VifaSys project's Advisory Council – Ms Pianos, Mr Siegert
- 27/11 Bonn: 5th Assembly of the members of vascoda – Mr Thomsen, Ms Pianos
- 27/11 and 28/11, University and City Library of Cologne: Meeting of Academic LinkShare – Mr Meyer, Ms Jeude, Ms N. Krüger
- 09.11.: Workshop on Information Literacy in Konstanz – Vortrag „EconDesk: Getting the content of need at the point of need“, Frau N. Krüger
- 23.11. Hamburg: VifaSys-Projekt-Beiratssitzung – Frau Dr. Pianos, Herr Siegert
- 27.11. Bonn: 5. vascoda Mitgliederversammlung – Herr Thomsen, Frau Dr. Pianos
- 27. und 28.11. Köln: Treffen der Academic LinkShare an der USB – Herr Meyer, Frau Jeude, Frau N. Krüger

ZBW-Insights: family-friendly working conditions

Teleworking

Teleworking has been possible in the ZBW since 2006. Britta Freimuth, a mother of two daughters aged 11 and 14, who is employed in the programme budget division Collection Development and Metadata, has been working from home on two days since May 2007. She gives an account of her experiences.





Britta Freimuth at her at her workplace in the ZBW

ZBW: What does teleworking look like in your case?

B.F.: My teleworking days are Wednesdays and Fridays. I can always be reached in the morning on these days. I usually work when the kids are at school. I mainly work with online publications for which my personal presence in the ZBW is not necessarily required.

ZBW: What are the technical requirements?

B.F.: A DSL connection, I already had a flat rate for telephone and internet access. My password gives me access to the entire ZBW network, my e-mails and our cataloguing software WinIBW

ZBW: Can you decide to do teleworking at short notice?

B.F.: Yes, I've done that already when one of my kids was ill and I swapped the day. This kind of flexibility works both ways. For instance, if I have to take part in meetings, I'm willing to come to the ZBW on my teleworking days.

ZBW: What do your colleagues think of it?

B.F.: Well, some were surprised because my kids are not that young any more. But at this age it's good for them not to be alone for too long after school. At first I gave 150% so as not to give cause for critical comments. I think this mindset is present in all teleworking colleagues at the ZBW.

ZBW: Do you see any disadvantages in teleworking?

B.F.: For myself I see no disadvantages. There probably could be if contact with colleagues suffered from too much external work.

ZBW: Please finish the sentence: "Teleworking is great for all who..."

B.F.: ...must combine work with family life."

ZBW: Thank you very much for answering our questions, Ms Freimuth!

