

# UNIVERSITY LIBRARY OF REGENSBURG

Press Release of 10<sup>th</sup> October 2005

## **Nominated for the "eEurope Awards 2005": the Electronic Journals Library of the University Library of Regensburg**

Once again in 2005 outstanding projects will be honoured with eEurope Awards for eGovernment by the European Commission throughout Europe in the fields of electronic management as well as excellent online services in the public sector.

The University Library of Regensburg applied in the category "Services" with the Electronic Journals Library (EZB). This innovative service was nominated by an independent panel of experts for the final selection and so competes as one of the 20 best European innovations of this category at the awards ceremony in November.

The EZB is a service developed by the University Library of Regensburg for the use of electronic journals. With more than 22,000 registered scientific and academic electronic journals the EZB offers the largest collection worldwide of full-text journals. This service has, in the meantime, been adopted beyond Regensburg in more than 300 academic libraries and research facilities at home and abroad. In addition to the many German and European institutions, the largest American library - the Library of Congress - was recently won over as a new user of the EZB. The high acceptance rate of this service is reflected in its intensive use. Thus in 2004 more than 10 million title accesses could be registered. The Bavarian State Ministry for Science, Research and the Arts promoted the development of the EZB. Current developments of the EZB are sponsored by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung).

The EZB was nominated because it represents a showcase for innovative and accessible public sector management as promoted by the EU. It was honoured as an outstanding user service which uses the positive abilities of information technology and can count as an example of successful cooperation between academic and scientific libraries at the European level.

In November 2005 the final selection of services will be presented in Manchester under the British EU presidency at the "Ministerial eGovernment Conference 2005" and the winners of the eEurope Awards will be announced in four categories. Already the success of having been invited as a positive example of an innovative, accessible public sector, and future-oriented service to this high-ranking EU conference of ministers is for the University Library of Regensburg an acknowledgement of its pioneering path.

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