

Press Release | 22 October 2015

PUBLISSO. The new open access publishing portal for life sciences

Juliane Tiedt
Press Office

Phone: +49 (0) 221 478 5687
Fax: +49 (0) 221 478 7124
pressestelle@zbmed.de

ZB MED combines its publishing services in PUBLISSO

On 21 October 2015, ZB MED – Leibniz Information Centre for Life Sciences presented its new open access publishing portal PUBLISSO. This new portal groups together ZB MED's services and products in the fields of digital publishing and open access. Researchers, scientists and information science professionals can now find information on publishing articles, conference papers, videos, books and research data by visiting the website www.publisso.de. The new platform also offers an extensive portfolio of advice and personal consultation services.

ZB MED has spent more than a decade promoting open access, a concept that essentially implies the free online availability of research and scholarly output. One of the key reasons for setting up the website www.publisso.de is to create a space where it can combine all its efforts in this area. The PUBLISSO website offers scientists and researchers an open access model for publishing books, journals, conference papers and research data.

Ursula Arning, who heads up ZB MED's Digital Publishing department, presented the new publishing portal on 21 October 2015 as part of an event held to mark International Open Access Week. "We previously offered a number of publishing options through a range of different platforms," says Arning. "But now we've combined everything we offer in one place on PUBLISSO." ZB MED's long-term plans for PUBLISSO include incorporating new content in addition to the specialist repository and book publishing services for life sciences. In the future users will be able to publish journals and conference papers from the full range of subject areas covered by ZB MED, namely medicine, health, and nutritional, environmental and agricultural sciences. ZB MED has offered this option for medical publications for more than a decade through German Medical Science (GMS).

Publishing advice is another key element of PUBLISSO. ZB MED has compiled a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) which cover many of the key issues involved. However, the PUBLISSO team also offers personal consultations on request as well as workshops on open access aimed at researchers and librarians.

"We very much hope that PUBLISSO will give a further boost to the concept of open access and motivate scientists and researchers to make their research results freely available online – either through gold open access publication in one of our journals or through green open access archiving in our Specialist Repository for Life Sciences," says Arning, summing up the primary goals of the new portal.

Background information: ZB MED – Leibniz Information Centre for Life Sciences

ZB MED – Leibniz Information Centre for Life Sciences is Germany's central service centre for specialist information and research support in the field of life sciences. It evolved from the world's largest library in the subject combination of medicine, health, and nutritional, environmental and agricultural science. ZB MED's primary goal is to support researchers, students and key disseminators and multipliers working in these disciplines. To achieve that goal, ZB MED offers literature and specialist information in both digital and print formats, both on-site and through its semantic-based search portal LIVIVO. ZB MED also offers its own open access portal known as PUBLISSO, and its registration service assigns Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) to ensure articles and research data are kept permanently available online. ZB MED has two sites, one in Cologne and one in Bonn. As a member of the Leibniz Association, ZB MED helps provide the information infrastructure required for scientific research and plays a major part in maintaining Germany's status as a key player in the world of science and research.

You can find out more by visiting the following website: www.zbmed.de.

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Phone: +49 (0) 221 478 5687
Fax: +49 (0) 221478 7124
pressestelle@zbmed.de