

One User Card for Two Libraries in Karlsruhe

KIT Library and Badische Landesbibliothek Extend Cooperation

The KIT Library and the Badische Landesbibliothek (BLB) extend their successful cooperation. From now on, both libraries will accept each other's library user cards. With their card, users will be free to use all services offered by both libraries. The services are not only available for students, but for all interested citizens.

"In practice, this means that users having an account with the Badische Landesbibliothek and the KIT Library will have to bring along one user card only," says the Director of the KIT Library Frank Scholze. Students and employees of KIT can use their KIT cards.

"Through this 'card federation', customers of the two largest libraries in Karlsruhe can use all services of both facilities to the complete extent," says the Director of BLB, Dr. Julia Freifrau Hiller von Gaertringen. Among these services are the lending of media and the use of electronic services (e-books, e-journals, databases). The fees and fee-based actions will continue to be handled separately in the future. Both libraries will have to be informed when the user card is lost.

This cooperation of the two libraries is another step towards a user-friendly regional library system that is supposed to facilitate and improve access of all citizens to the media and services offered in the Karlsruhe Technology Region. The Karlsruhe Bibliotheksportal (Library Portal) and the Netzwerk Informationskompetenz Karlsruhe (NIKKA, Karlsruhe Information Competence Network) have already been established. The 'user card federation' is the most recent product of this close cooperation and will presumably be joined by the Stadtbibliothek Karlsruhe (Karlsruhe Municipal Library) in 2014.

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) is a public corporation according to the legislation of the state of Baden-Württemberg. It fulfills the mission of a university and the mission of a national research center of the Helmholtz Association. Research activities focus on energy, the natural and built environment as well as on society and technology and cover the whole range extending from fundamental aspects to application. With about 9000 em-

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ployees, including nearly 6000 staff members in the science and education sector, and 24000 students, KIT is one of the biggest research and education institutions in Europe. Work of KIT is based on the knowledge triangle of research, teaching, and innovation.

This press release is available on the internet at www.kit.edu.