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DIE SCHULBIBLIOTHEK
nie mehr ohne

Press release

The fair stall “The School library” at the Leipzig book fair 2011

A worldwide novelty at a fair is presented by a project group of the Hochschule für Technik, Wirtschaft und Kultur Leipzig at the Leipzig book fair 2011– a 100 sqm-sized school library for participating and experiencing. Students of the courses of study “Library and information sciences” and “Architecture” create, organise, build and operate this unique fair stall.

The slogan *The School library – never again without* summarises the intention of the project. The aim is to bring the expected 129000 visitors (number of visitors of the book fair 2010) into contact with the topic of the school library, to stimulate them to think about the necessity of school libraries as an indispensable multimedia place of learning for subject teaching and for the creation of information competence from primary to vocational school.

The school library at the fair will reach a heterogeneous public that is interested in education and thus, in a different way, complete the commitment of many people, for example of the federal consortiums for school libraries, the school library centres, the German Library Association and many teachers and school librarians. The project group expects target groups that are, in many different ways, “concerned” with the topic of the school library: students, teachers, parents, political decision makers, staff members in administrative bodies, architects etc. Based on this, the fair stall is staged as a place of experience which covers the possible spectrum of a school library, from the information centre via the supplementing classroom and the place for self-study to the internet cafe and the chill-out area. The functionality is being quoted through the architecture of the stall. It is not the concern of the project to show the ideal school library in a one-to-one model-like representation.

The program of the fair is oriented on the project aim through its defining focus. Show classes of different subjects (e.g. Sport, Mathematics, German, Information literacy) are being offered as open events without a registration of the visitors of the fair. Aside from this, presentations inform about the topic of the school library. Speakers, among others from Lebanon, Italy, South Tyrol and Switzerland make an international point of view possible. A panel discussion on the topic “The

present situation of school libraries in Germany” is supposed to address the problem areas of staff and space.

It is also worth mentioning that the fair stall “The School library” is being created in a cross-faculty seminar. This is a special challenge for the students inasmuch as such a complex project, which has to prove itself in public, on the one hand needs abilities and proficiencies – simply to know something is not enough – and on the other hand requires the capacity for team work and social competence. The seminar is chaperoned by the two project supervisors Prof. Nikolaizig (Library and information sciences) and Prof. Scherzer-Heidenberger (Architecture).

Visit us from 17th to 20th March, 2011 in hall 2, stall D 301 at the Leipzig book fair.