## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS RELEVANT TO THE AQUATIC SCIENCE LIBRARIES, GERMANY

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Over the last two years the AmB (Arbeitsgemeinschaft meereskundlicher Bibliotheken = Organisation of marine science libraries in Germany) has finished to putting their joint journals catalogue on the web and it can be used now from all over the world. You are all, of course, welcome to have a look at it and use it for interlibrary loan. (URL: https://gwdu64.gwdg.de/pls/amb/BSUCHEN\$ZS1.Startup)

At the beginning of this year the AmB formed a consortia to buy ASFA-online from CSA. Up to then most of the German libraries used the Silverplatter single user licence and we are happy that we can now deliver the online edition. It is almost the same price and much more effective.

At the end of 1999 the Biologische Anstalt Helgoland was disolved for good and the collections were incorporated into the library of the Alfred-Wegener-Institute in Bremerhaven. Most of the books and journals are now, together with the collection of the Alfred-Wegener-Institute, part of the Common Library Network of seven Northern German Federal States, as well as the collections of the German Maritime Museum in Bremerhaven and the Baltic Sea Research Institute in Warnemünde. You can search within their catalogues using the following Web-address: http://www.gbv.de/en/

At the beginning of July 2001, the German Research Foundation granted funds to the University of Bremen to set up a new marine research center. In the coming years, climate development and sedimentation processes, the biogeochemistry of the sea floor as well as, among other things, the effects of the construction of ports in coastal regions will be investigated in the new "Research Center Ocean Margins" (URL: http://www.oceanmargins.de/)

A cooperation contract was signed between my Institute of Marine Research and GEOMAR – both Institutes are going to form a new and larger Institute of Marine Research in the near future. Another cooperation contract is due in 2003 between the Max-Planck-Institute for Meteorology, the Institute of Hydrobiology, the Institute of Oceanography, the Meteorological Institute, the Institute of Geophysics and the Institute of Biogeochemistry in Hamburg. Together they will form the new Center for Marine and Atmospheric Sciences with one central library. (More information: http://www.mpimet.mpg.de/)

Our library software BISLOK was updated to Aleph, Ex Libris.

Our annual report will not be printed any longer, but published bi-annually on the website.

You can get more information about the German Group of marine science libraries at the following URL: http://www.terramare.de/amb/