NEW WINE IN NEW SKINS
THE RELAUNCH OF THE EDUMERES PORTAL

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The Edumeres (Educational Media Research) portal, originally launched in 2008, will soon be relaunched with a completely new look and new content and, in addition to fundamental layout changes, will also have modular format. All modules will be accessible directly from the home page and will be easy to use from mobile devices due to the implementation of tiles and responsive design. The aim of the portal is to amalgamate the flow of multidisciplinary information relevant to educational media and render it more manageably and efficiently to the international community.

The following refinements have been made as a result of the modularisation

**EDU|DATA – GLOBAL TEXTBOOK SYSTEMS**
Edu|Data is a database that combines information about the textbook systems of countries around the world with details of their education systems, complemented by extensive reference sources. Countries can be selected via an interactive world map or selected from a drop-down list. The database allows comparisons between several countries, according to the criteria selected by the user.

**EDU|REVIEWS – PLATFORM FOR TEXTBOOK REVIEWS**
Edumeres has featured textbook reviews since 2009. The portal has grown over the last few years and has published 300 reviews to date. This is one of the reasons that the previous, alphabetical, organisation of the reviews was no longer practicable. We decided therefore to list the reviews in chronological order, starting with the most recent. The subject list has been expanded to include reviews of textbooks for ethics/religion, primary humanities and science, and economics; subjects closely related to the GEI’s traditional core subjects of history, geography, social studies/politics. The search function has been adjusted accordingly and a free-text search has been added. Features such as citation notes for each review and images of textbook covers have also been added.

**EDU|NEWS – NEWS FROM EDUCATIONAL MEDIA RESEARCH**
This section will continue to feature the latest news from educational practice and research with relevance for educational media. Calls for papers and event announcements will now be presented alongside current notifications on a new combined page. A news ticker has also been added. The two categories, events and notifications, will also each have their own section. In order to simplify targeted searches, items will be arranged into specific thematic and regional categories such as “conferences”, “calls for papers”, “curricula” and “Europe”.

**EDU|DOCS – EDUCATIONAL MEDIA RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS**
In addition to the two open access series edited by us: Eckert.Beiträge and Eckert.Working Papers, we will also be featuring other freely available publications from the fields of educational media research and curricula research in our newly established repository. All texts on Edu|Docs are available to download.

**CURRICULA|WORKSTATION – GLOBAL CURRICULA**
The Curricula Workstation provides central, public access to German and international curricula related to the social sciences. The Curricula Workstation constitutes a permanent archive for curricula pertaining to the subjects geography, history, social studies/politics and religion/values education. The majority of the documents are already available as fully searchable texts. The content is being expanded significantly in terms of volume and geographic range and continuously augmented by the addition of older and historic curricula from our inventory in digitised format.
Structured searches of the database can be filtered according to country, subject, educational level, year of release and document format. A free-text search of the metadata and the texts of the digital curricula is also offered.

**GEI|DZS – APPROVED TEXTBOOKS IN GERMANY**
This information system contains details of all textbooks and atlases approved in Germany since the 2010/2011 academic year for year 5 (10-11 years old) upwards in geography, history and social studies/politics. The database is updated at the beginning of each academic year. Contextual information is of increasing importance for academics and information regarding the approval process is therefore valuable to researchers. This information is often difficult to locate and is seldom available retrospectively. For that reason GEI-DZS aims to fill an important desideratum by making this data available.

**LOOKING TO THE FUTURE: EDU|EXPERTS – EDUCATIONAL MEDIA RESEARCH NETWORK**
The Edu|Experts module is still in the development phase. An online test version is planned for autumn 2016. It will consist of a portal aimed at facilitating international communication in the field of textbook-related educational media research. Edu|Experts will serve as a research tool for users. It will use a Semantic MediaWiki to connect individuals, institutions and projects related to educational media research and will provide semantic search and research tools enabling users to find information and contact persons relevant to their research. The absence of a hierarchical page structure also allows the user access to content-based information. The wiki principle of collaborative writing and collective intelligence in combination with user-oriented editorial workflows and access rights bring together the philosophy of open access with quality assurance and data protection.

Our department has been working on this relaunch for almost two years. When the new version goes live we will begin to evaluate the process, and to iron out the inevitable teething troubles. We welcome feedback from users and are always open to new ideas. After all in the world of digital resources every end is a new beginning.