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**Press Release**

**Eduserver Dossier: “Mobility- Studying- Disability“**

The EU announces the „Year of Equal Opportunities for All“ in 2007

Frankfurt / Main. The German Education Server launched an information service for students with special needs in mid-June 2007: the website www.bildungsserver.de/zeigen_e.html?seite=5287 provides resources on the subject of mobility, studying and disability. This collection of documents is accessible in English and German (German: www.bildungsserver.de/zeigen.html?seite=5287). Its larger framework is the “Year of Equal Opportunities for All”, as declared by the European Union in 2007. Access to higher education and to exchange programmes for students is one particular issue which is relevant in the light of a growing European higher education area.

With regard to the “EU Year of Equal Opportunities for All”, the EU programme for Lifelong Learning gains a particular significance: all citizens need to have equal access to education, regardless of their age, origin, religious orientation or disability. Students with disabilities and chronic diseases have special needs when preparing for an exchange programme. In many cases the appropriate addresses, counselling services and support programmes are disparate, and it is difficult to find them.

The new web service by the German Education Server now offers students an opportunity to gain a quick overview of Internet resources regarding aspects of studying and mobility, both in Germany and the EU. Thus, it supplements the existing Eduserver information, (www.bildungsserver.de/zeigen.html?seite=193), which is mostly in German.

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The German Education Server is a joint service by the federal government and the states. It is located at the German Institute for International Educational Research in Frankfurt on the Main and Berlin (DIPF), member of the Leibniz Association.

The DIPF institute is one of 84 non-university research institutes belonging to the Leibniz-Gemeinschaft. The scope of the Leibniz institutions is broad, it reaches from natural sciences to engineering, environment and economical and social sciences to space and philosophical sciences, including museums with their own research departments. The institutes are demand-oriented and interdisciplinary. They are of national importance, hence their projects are of federal interest and they are jointly financed by the federal and state governments. For more information, see www.wgl.de/extern/englisch/index.html