German Research Foundation (DFG) fund license for entire Nature archive

All universities and publicly funded research institutions in Germany will now have access to the complete Nature archive from 1869-2007. Goettingen University Library (SUB), the German National Library of Science and Technology (TIB), and Nature Publishing Group (NPG) today announce a national deal for all publicly funded research institutions, government and higher education institutions in Germany.

The national license is financed by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG) as part of their national licensing project. The license agreement also covers the Nature research journal archive collection up to and including 2007.

From May 2008, about 2.5 million researchers and students across Germany will have online access to the entire Nature archive back to Volume 1, Number 1. The Nature archive contains more than 400,000 articles from over 6,500 issues, the first 80 years of which (1869-1949) went live on the 7 January 2008. In addition, the national deal includes access to the archives of Nature Biotechnology, Nature Genetics, Nature Medicine and Nature Structural & Molecular Biology up to and including 2007.

"SUB and TIB are extremely pleased to be able to offer this outstanding resource to German scientists. With the Nature archive we have expanded national access to top journals," stresses SUB-Direktor Dr. Norbert Lossau. "The agreement was achieved through the cooperation of many people. Our special thanks to Mr. Bernd-Christoph Kämper (UB Stuttgart), GASCO Nature Consortium, "said Dr. Lossau.

"Nature Publishing Group is pleased to agree this license that provides German researchers and students with access to more than 130 years of Nature articles," said Bethan Creighton, Consortia Sales Manager at Nature Publishing Group. "This is the first large-scale consortium purchase of the Nature archive. We look forward to working with other national consortia to ensure the widest possible access to the quality research that NPG publishes."

Bernd-Christoph Kaemper, administrator of the German-Austrian-Swiss GASCO Nature Consortium, commented: "Now all of our German members, and many more libraries and higher education and research institutions in Germany...will enjoy free access to this outstanding and highly cited research journals archive, which in itself is a unique source for the history of science and science education, and the influence of science on society... A national license deal bundles resources and broadens access for non-commercial purposes in a way that individual purchases, even with attractive consortial savings, could never achieve, and thus bridges the digital divide between larger and smaller institutions and their members."

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About DFG
The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) is the central, self-governing research funding organisation that promotes research at universities and other publicly financed research institutions in Germany.

The DFG serves all branches of science and the humanities by funding research projects and facilitating cooperation among researchers. DFG membership is made up of German universities, non-university research institutions, scientific associations as well as the Academies of Science and Humanities. For more information, visit www.dfg.de

About NPG
Nature Publishing Group (NPG) is a division of Macmillan Publishers Ltd, dedicated to serving the academic, professional scientific and medical communities. NPG's flagship title, Nature, was first published in 1869. Other publications include Nature research journals, Nature Reviews, Nature Clinical Practice and a range of prestigious academic journals including society-owned publications. NPG also provides news content through Nature News. Scientific career information and free job postings are offered on Naturejobs.

NPG is a global company with headquarters in London and offices in New York, San Francisco, Washington DC, Boston, Tokyo, Paris, Madrid, Munich, Hong Kong, Melbourne, Delhi, Mexico City and Basingstoke. For more information, please go to www.nature.com.

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