



## Press Release

[www.TheEuropeanLibrary.org](http://www.TheEuropeanLibrary.org) & [www.Delos.info](http://www.Delos.info)

### The European Library and DELOS to investigate joint projects

Following a workshop in September, The European Library [www.TheEuropeanLibrary.org](http://www.TheEuropeanLibrary.org) and DELOS [www.delos.info](http://www.delos.info) decided that there were several areas where joint co-operation could bear fruit. The European Library provides access to the collections of 12 National Libraries in Europe and aims to have another 12 libraries' resources accessible by the end of 2006. The European Library faces some particular issues related to its portal nature and multilinguality. It is in these two areas that DELOS is looking to provide the most help.

DELOS is a Network of Excellence on Digital Libraries that conducts a joint programme of activities aimed at integrating and coordinating the ongoing research activities of the major European teams working in Digital Library-related areas, with the goal of developing the next generation Digital Library.

The European Library is currently investigating the addition of the Daffodil [www.daffodil.de](http://www.daffodil.de) front end. Daffodil (Distributed agents for user-friendly access of digital libraries) a product of the DELOS partner, the University of Duisberg, Germany, has been adopted as a test-bed by DELOS. Daffodil has taken as its basis the Marcia Bates user studies (see: [www.gseis.ucla.edu/faculty/bates](http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/faculty/bates)) to create a user friendly navigation system.

The European Library also intends to exploit the benchmarking capabilities of DELOS to evaluate how well it's portal measures up and hence provide some recommendations on where improvements can be made.

Multilingual tools have been researched and evaluated by the DELOS network and a workshop to see how this knowledge may be usefully applied to The European Library will be held in Spring 2006. The European Library needs to be able to offer its users the ability to search in their native language across all the collections held in the different languages.

Two other joint workshops will be held in the near future:

The first, in early December, is to discuss the EU's communiqué: *i2010: Digital Libraries* [http://europa.eu.int/information\\_society/activities/digital\\_libraries/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/information_society/activities/digital_libraries/index_en.htm) and to see where there is overlap in our organisational approaches. The second will be alongside the next Technical Working Group meeting of The European Library to be held at the Bibliothèque nationale de France in Paris, in February and this will dig deeper into the technological innovations that may be usable.

#### **For further information please contact:**

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*The European Library is a service of the Conference of European National Librarians [www.cenl.org](http://www.cenl.org). It provides integrated access to the digital and non-digital collections of The European Library and is funded by the National Libraries themselves.*

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