

## Local News

### **EBSCO assists in the creation of the unique VDIC project in Belgium**

EBSCO has played an important role in a unique governmental project in Belgium, called Vesalius Documentation and Information Center (VDIC). Last year, the Ministry of Public Health started an ambitious plan to unite its multiple internal libraries. The goal of the project was to dramatically improve efficiency and effectiveness of the information provision within the Ministry. With 7 different institutions and 7 different libraries, this was a real challenge. The driving force behind this plan was project leader Mrs. Bernadette Claus, also librarian of the Institute of Public Health (IPH institute), an EBSCO customer since more than 25 years.

EBSCO's Account Development Manager Elwin Gardeur, involved in this project since its early beginning, assisted Mrs. Claus with practical advice on how to handle such an integration of institutions, how to make the different collections available to the whole Ministry and how to work out the technical details. EBSCO's cooperation highly contributed to the success of the project. On 2 February 2006, a milestone was reached: a great number of guests attended the official opening of the VDIC in Brussels and the presentation of the brand new portal Vesalius. This portal reflects the outcome of the internal reorganisation of the several institution libraries of the Ministry. Via the portal, all employees of the Ministry now have access to a considerable amount of electronic journals and databases through a common catalogue. Their own publications will soon be accessible through the online VDIC repository. Since its opening, several health libraries in Belgium have asked to join the VDIC initiative. To be continued...

Please visit [www.vesalius.be](http://www.vesalius.be) to find out more about this project or contact Mrs. Bernadette Claus ([b.claus@iph.fgov.be](mailto:b.claus@iph.fgov.be)) or Elwin Gardeur ([egardeur@ebSCO.com](mailto:egardeur@ebSCO.com)).

