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**Good Rehabilitation Requires Good Research: Rehabilitation Research of the Federal German Pension Office**

Authors: Dr. Silke Brüggemann, Dr. Rolf Buschmann-Steinhage, Sabine Erbstößer, nie Märtin, Verena Pimmer, Pia Zollmann

Location: Berlin

The authors evaluate the activities of the Federal German Pension Office (“Deutsche Rentenversicherung Bund”) in the field of rehabilitation research. After a short historical retrospect, they describe the different ways in which the Federal German Pension Office promotes rehabilitation research and the implementation of research results. Furthermore, the authors refer to important exemplary research topics and about additional researchrelated activities. The article demonstrates the importance of rehabilitation research for the enhancement of rehabilitation quality.

**Transition from Working Life into Retirement: „Successful“ and „Precarious“ Ways**

Author: Associate HTProfessorTH Dr. Martin Brussig

Location: Duisburg

The empirical developments in recent years have seen a significant increase in the participation rate of elderly persons which is primarily attributable to longer phases of gainful employment. At the same time, it is obvious that, currently, a substantial part of the working population does not reach retirement age subsequent to employment. With the decision of raising the regular legal age limit from 65 to 67, socially acceptable options for this group of people should be developed. The measures must take the individual capacity for work into account, preserve and develop it. Furthermore, they must prevent old-age poverty due to age transition, and open up new possibilities for a self-determined transition. Apart from that, models should be developed for those striving for flexibility and time prosperity in the phase of age transition – with consideration of the interests of the community of the insured. Whereas, these interests could come into conflict.

## **Social Change and Protection of Marriage, Partnership, and Family in the Statutory Pension Scheme and in State Subsidised Private Pension Provision**

Authors: Dr. Michael Stegmann, Ulrich Bieber

Locations: Würzburg, Rheinbach

The article describes the provisions of pension law against the background of an ever changing perception of women's role in society as reflected in labor force participation, low birth rates, the increasing number of divorces, and in the social change regarding the forms of cohabitation. The authors focus on the provisions regarding the protection of spouses in case of divorce, death of the family provider, child rearing, and nursing care for family members. The provisions regarding the state subsidised private pension provision are taken into account. Finally, the authors discuss to what extent the legal provisions applicable for the statutory pension scheme and the state subsidised private pension provision ensure adequate protection for spouses that are consistent with recent social developments and a modern understanding of partnership. Marriage is not a passing phenomenon. It is still the most common form of cohabitation for men and women. Furthermore, the special consideration of marriage in the statutory pension scheme and in state subsidised private pension provision appears appropriate under consideration of the particular protection of marriage in the German constitution ("Grundgesetz"). However, the challenges connected with a thoughtful development of the legal provisions concerning marriage, partnership, and family will persist.

## **Data Supply, Demand for Data, and Number of Publications in Seven Years**

Authors: Ingmar Hansen, Associate Professor Dr. Ralf K. Himmelreicher, Dirk Mai, Frank Röder

Locations: Würzburg, Berlin

The article documents the data supply of the data research center of the German statutory pension scheme („Forschungsdatenzentrum der Rentenversicherung – FDZ-RV“) – under consideration of requirements of data protection and data security – and the demand of scientists for the available data within the first seven years after the establishment of the data research center in 2004. Since then, the data supply has been broadened continuously. It comprises cross section data and longitudinal data from the statistics in the field of pensions and insurance as well as cross section data from the rehabilitation statistics. In the near future, longitudinal data from the rehabilitation statistics will be available, too. The development and provision of data stored by the data research center of the statutory pension scheme enables scientific research in the field of old-age provision and regarding further aspects, and the analyzation of complete professional biographies. The demand for the respective data increases: more and more scientists from various spectrums who work at universities and research institutes apply for micro data stored at the data research center and participate in cooperative projects with the data research center. The rising demand is reflected in an increasing number of publications in the respective time frame.

