

Becoming Part of the Program

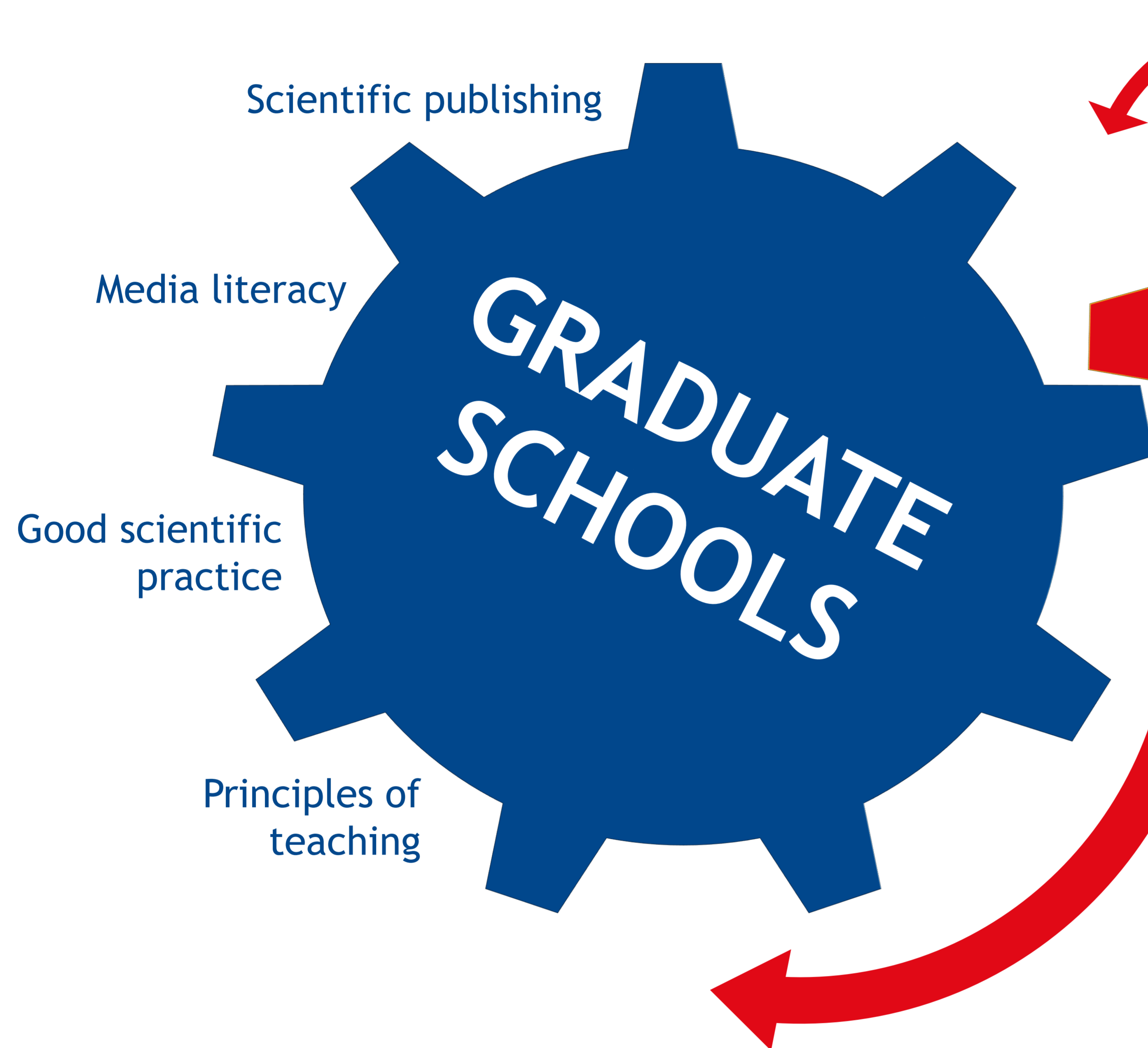
How Libraries Can Participate Actively in Graduate Schools

Kai Geschuhn, Research Center Borstel - Leibniz Center for Medicine and Biosciences, Germany | kgeschuhn@fz-borstel.de | EAHIL Workshop: "Active Learning and Research Partners in Health" | Istanbul, Turkey, July 05-08, 2011

Curricula of Graduate Schools

usually include theoretical principles and methods of the particular field of research, as well as lectures, seminars, and journal clubs.

Beyond that, soft skill training is offered:



Standards of Information Literacy

Referring to the US Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) standards published by the committee for library services of the German Library Association define essential skills for the information literate student:

To access needed information effectively and efficiently

To evaluate information and its sources critically

To understand many of the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information

EXPERIENCES

The library of the Research Center Borstel is involved in the local graduate school BBRS - Borstel Biomedical Research School.

Structured PhD qualification will replace individual graduation prospectively.

About 20 percent of all German doctoral students attend a structured graduate program like a graduate school.

The German Research Foundation (DFG) currently promotes about 40 graduate schools.

The Leibniz Association currently maintains 18 graduate schools in cooperation with universities.

▶ One lecture per year addresses issues of scientific publishing such as bibliometrics and open access. Graduates acquire a better understanding of their role and the responsibilities as a producer of scientific information.

▶ A weekly offered session in the library on literature search and reference management helps graduates to better organize their work.

▶ Being asked to evaluate the courses graduates pointed out the news value of the subjects. It also turned out that almost none of the graduates visited a library course on literature search and related topics ever.

▶ Librarians can contribute their expertise actively to graduate programs to establish their reputation in the field of information literacy.



**Research Center
Borstel**