Dewey News

Get Dewey updates at ALA

The Dewey Breakfast/Update will be held on Saturday, June 22, 7:00–10:00 am, at the Marriott Marquis, University of DC Room. Hear about the latest Dewey news, including our strengthened focus on community engagement in the editorial process. See presentations by Dewey editors Violet Fox and Alex Kyrios, as well as Editorial Policy Committee members Deborah Rose-Lefmann and Elise Conradi. Directly following the breakfast, the ALCTS Public Libraries Technical Services Interest Group will meet.

Dewey Program at the Library of Congress

As of April 2019 for Fiscal Year 2019, the LC Dewey Program assigned Dewey numbers to 26,934 bibliographic records; an additional 10,752 were assigned to CIP e-book records. Northwestern University, Queens Library, and the US Government Publishing Office, all members of the CIP Cataloging Partnership Program, assigned numbers to 878 CIP records. 3,280 DDC numbers were semi-automatically assigned by AutoDewey, and 3,469 were added to ISSN records. 23,570 records processed via the copy cataloging work stream included DDC, identified in the 082 field with a second indicator 4. The fiscal year total to date for all DDC assigned in LC records was 68,883.

In addition to DDC assignment, Dewey classifiers added Library of Congress Classification to 772 ECIPs cataloged by the National Library of Medicine, and completed the subject cataloging for 79 ECIPs.

As part of the community engagement initiative of the OCLC Dewey editorial team, several Library of Congress classifiers have begun editorial projects. One of the projects is to update the time periods for China, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan. Another is to update the time periods for administrations of Brazil.

Welcome to a new Dewey intern

Last month, we were pleased to welcome the fourth-ever Dewey intern: Emily Zinger, an MLIS student at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Emily has an exciting background in digital humanities, having worked as a transcriber for the Georgian Papers Programme, an Anglo-

Emily Zinger

American effort to transcribe the personal papers of King George III through machine learning. When she returns to McGill, she'll also resume work as data manager for the university's Taylor White Project, describing a collection of over 900 never-published 18th-century scientific watercolors of birds, mammals, and reptiles. She's also working on an independent study about library anxiety.

Emily is based with the editors at the Library of Congress this summer. She's working in more of a direct editorial role than previous interns, and has an EPC exhibit on podcasting in the works.

Dewey Editorial Policy Committee (EPC) reports progress

EPC has been busy since last ALA. They met in person for EPC Meeting 141 in October, and have conducted two electronic meetings (141A and 141B) this year. Topics reviewed/approved at these meetings include:

- A revamped introduction for the WebDewey environment
- Software development
- Notation for an optional arrangement of the 200s
- Orthodox Christian denominations
- Endangered languages
- LGBT and transgender identity
- Two-Spirit people
- Asexuality
- Scouts
- Autonomous vehicles
- Spices
- Chess openings
- Bird hunting
- Space flight and travel

Don't forget, EPC proposals in progress are now accessible at **oc.lc/deweyexhibits**. This is your chance to review proposed changes, too, and send your comments to editors and EPC members for consideration.

The next meeting of EPC is scheduled for 23–24 September 2019 at the Library of Congress. Among other topics, EPC will review the first batch of proposals prepared chiefly by Dewey community members. Sound like fun? Ask an editor about how to get involved.

European DDC Users Group (EDUG) Meetings

The European DDC Users Group met in Stockholm at the National Library of Sweden, 9–10 May 2019. The group discussed topics such as community involvement in Dewey development, Dewey as linked data, and mapping of Dewey numbers to other controlled vocabularies. The group also got a look at a right-to-left set-up of WebDewey to support languages like Arabic. The 2020 meeting will be held in the United Kingdom.

More transparency and community engagement in editorial efforts

The Dewey editorial team has always looked to the library community to help shape the DDC. When users send us questions or comments, we use the opportunity to identify where the schedules might need expansion or where instructions might be clarified. When the editors research potential developments, we often reach out to subject matter experts.

Over the past year, we've worked to make the editorial process more transparent and even more community-oriented. Previously, only discussion papers were shared with Dewey users; as of February 2019 all proposals to revise the DDC are now available at **oc.lc/ DeweyExhibits**, and we now invite comments on proposals before they're implemented. At that website you can also find an overview of the proposal process and the editorial rules that help us modify Dewey in a consistent way.

We're also providing more opportunities for feedback. In addition to requesting comments on proposals, we're periodically surveying librarians to ask them which subject areas are most in need of revision. That feedback helps us prioritize our efforts to be more responsive to the rapidly changing needs of our users. Keep an eye on the Dewey blog (**oc.lc/deweyblog**) for regular opportunities to weigh in on editorial priorities.

Last but not least, we're inviting members of the community to be active participants in creating proposals to revise or expand the DDC. Librarians worldwide have great insights into how their patrons use Dewey, and by taking advantage of that expertise, we can create a better classification for everyone. A more engaged community also ensures that we're providing a more global and inclusive perspective within the DDC. In the first half of 2019, we've worked with a number of librarians to draft proposals for developments to the DDC.

To continue this work, we need to hear from you! If you have thoughts about ways to improve the DDC and/or want to find out more about proposing revisions, please get in touch at **dewey@oclc.org**.

Dewey by the Numbers

We use a Dewey "scorecard" to give users a quick overview of the Dewey database (2019-06-01):

	Now in DDC 23	New in DDC 23
Explicit assignable numbers in schedules (including built numbers)	41,608	4,602
Facets (building blocks from Tables 1–6 and internal add tables, added to show languages, geographic areas, ethnic/national groups, genres, etc.)	11,956	1,048
	Headings	**Assignments**
Relative Index terms	105,467	110,917
LCSH mappings	39,671	46,196
MeSH mappings	381	447

Watch for quarterly updates on 025.431: The Dewey Blog **oc.lc/deweyblog**.

New features in WebDewey

New features added to WebDewey in the last year include:

- **Update Notification:** An automatically updated list of changed numbers. Through filters, you can look at changes over a certain span of time, in certain parts of the schedules, and associated with particular EPC projects.

- **Synthesized number components box:** A moveable box on the page for every built number showing which other numbers it builds from. The other numbers have their captions visible, and link to their pages.

- **More options in Advanced Search,** including Number Components, which searches what's in the Synthesized number components box.

- **Enhanced hierarchy box:** The main box for a number now has indentation to clearly show hierarchical relationships, and downward arrows throughout the box mark classes with further subdivisions, giving a quick view of nearby numbers.

You've got questions, we've got answers

WebDewey subscriptions for individual libraries or consortia: contact your local OCLC office (see **oc.lc/webdeweyorders**) or contact Sandi Jones at OCLC: **joness@oclc.org**, **+1-614-764-6082**

WebDewey orders: contact **deweyorders@oclc.org**

DDC questions/comments: contact **dewey@oclc.org**

Dewey blog keeps you informed

The Dewey blog is the place to find the most current information about the DDC. The editors provide tips and tricks for using WebDewey, calls for comments on updates to the classification, statistics and much more. Read the blog: **oc.lc/deweyblog**.

WebDewey joins the OCLC Community Center

We are pleased to announce the availability of a new community within the OCLC Community Center focused on the English-language version of WebDewey. The WebDewey community is a virtual space for library staff and OCLC staff to connect online, share best practices, stay up to date on product news, learn about upcoming releases, and suggest enhancements.

To get started:

1. Complete the WebDewey community request form at **https://oc.lc/webdewey-community-request**

2. Watch for an email in 4–5 business days with information on your username and instructions to create your password.

3. Send questions to **support@oclc.org**.

USEFUL DEWEY LINKS

WebDewey:
dewey.org/webdewey

025.431: The Dewey Blog:
oc.lc/deweyblog

Dewey exhibits:
oc.lc/deweyexhibits

Dewey training courses:
oc.lc/deweyresources

Dewey webinars & presentations:
oc.lc/deweyevents

Discussion papers:
oc.lc/deweydiscussionpapers

Dewey resources:
oc.lc/deweyresources

Classify:
oc.lc/classify

Questions?

- Library of Congress assignment of Dewey Numbers: dewey@loc.gov
- Editorial team, licensing, group purchases, LIS program: dewey@oclc.org

The Dewey Editorial Office is located within the CIP and Dewey Section at the Library of Congress.

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