



Dewey Decimal Classification NEWS



July 2009

ALA Annual Conference

Dewey at ALA

Please join us for the Dewey Breakfast/Update at the ALA Annual Conference on Saturday, July 11, 7:00–8:20 a.m., Chicago Hilton, Lake Michigan Room. The program will feature a presentation on planned functionality in WebDewey 2.0 (with time for input from attendees), plus three brief presentations in a session entitled, “What does it mean to ‘use Dewey’?” In the latter, we’ll be discussing uses of the new 083 and 085 fields in the MARC Format for Bibliographic Data (see Updates to DDC Representation in the MARC Formats), the use of a DDC-driven representation in seven languages to provide access to digital resources in the World Digital Library, and a multilingual DDC linked data prototype service.

OCLC Booth 3923

Stop by OCLC Booth 3923 to see Web versions of DDC 22 and Abridged Edition 14. Other recent Dewey Decimal Classification publications are viewable online as well. Dewey print publications are also on display at the Combined Book Exhibit (Booth 2126).

New Editorial Support System (ESS)

The fourth-generation Dewey Editorial Support System (ESS) will be implemented in full production on July 19. The new ESS supports the development and maintenance of the DDC, “anytime” export of the DDC in a variety of formats to support a variety of services, publication of print editions, ingestion of mapped data, and eventual ingestion of translation data. The system was developed by OCLC staff in Dublin, Ohio, and San Mateo, California.

Earlier generations of the system used a proprietary format for data representation. The new ESS uses the MARC Format for Classification Data for schedule, table and Manual data; and the MARC Format for Authority Data for the Relative Index and

mapped headings. The last quarterly distribution in the current ESS XML format will be delivered to translators and other DDC licensees in July 2009. Beginning in September 2009, we plan to switch our distribution format from the ESS XML format to a MARCXML format. OCLC has contracted with Pansoft, the Karlsruhe-based developer of the translation support software used by several Dewey translations, to develop the print server for the new ESS. As part of that contract, Pansoft will convert existing translation files supported by Pansoft to the new format, and implement import/export of data in MARCXML in the translation support system.

WebDewey 2.0

Initial planning is under way for the successor to the current WebDewey. Design goals include a modern, simple user interface; support for search, browse, number building and personalization; a generic user interface script to support access to Dewey data in different languages, and access to different terminology sets; and local control over display of personalization, history of numbers, hierarchy information and connection to OPACs.

Updates to DDC Representation in the MARC Formats

We are investigating automatic assignment of Dewey numbers. Several updates to the representation of the DDC in MARC formats published by LC in Update 9 (October 2008) will be implemented by OCLC in August 2009. Of special note are updates to three fields in the MARC Format for Bibliographic Data: 082 Dewey Decimal Classification Format (two new subfields: www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic/bd082.html);

083 Additional Dewey Decimal Classification Number (new field: www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic/bd083.html); and 085 Synthesized Classification Number Components (new field: www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic/bd085.html).

Dewey around the World

Dewey Translators Meeting

OCLC will host the annual Dewey Translators Meeting in conjunction with the World Library and Information Congress (75th IFLA General Conference and Assembly) on Tuesday, August 25, 16:00-18:00, Orange 3, Milano Convention Centre. The agenda includes presentations on the UDC/DDC crosswalk developed by the Czech National Library for the purpose of collection assessment, the classification of photographs in the World Digital Library Project, and Dewey research activities.

European DDC Users' Group (EDUG)

EDUG held its third annual meeting on April 27, 2009, at the Austrian National Library in Vienna. EDUG working groups on law, education, archaeology and technical issues met during the EDUG meeting. A symposium, "Dewey goes Europe: On the Use and Development of DDC in European Libraries," was held the following day, also at the Austrian National Library.

Arabic DDC 22

Dr. Sohair Wastawy and Manal Amin of Bibliotheca Alexandrina visited the Dewey Editorial Office at LC May 18–19. We discussed general plans for the translation, plus the proposed expansion for Islam.

French DDC 22 (Web version)

Preliminary planning is under way for a French Web version of the full edition.

Mixed translation models: Norwegian and Swedish

In late January / early February 2009, Joan Mitchell spent several days at the National Library of Norway working with Karen Nisja Domaas, Ingebjørg Rype and Magdalena Svanberg on the mixed translation project (see a detailed account of the trip, including links to seminars in Norway and Sweden and a report on the visit to the National Library of Sweden, at <http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2009/02/my-excellent-scandinavian-adventure.html>). In April 2009, the Norwegian Classification Committee (NKKI) recommended to the National Library of Norway that Norwegian librarians' needs would best be met by a full translation of the DDC accompanied by abridgment instructions. The National Library of Norway agreed in principle with NKKI's recommendation, but has postponed a final decision until a full review of the costs associated with a full translation can be completed.

Work has begun on the Swedish mixed translation project. All ten major university libraries in Sweden have announced their intention to adopt the DDC.

Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee (EPC)

EPC held Meeting 131 at OCLC headquarters in Dublin, Ohio, June 10–12, 2009. EPC discussed updates to the Dewey editorial rules for terms with variations in meaning, and reviewed the full version of Table 1 (Standard Subdivisions). In Table 2 (Geographic Areas, Historical Periods, Persons), EPC reviewed provisions for the ancient world plus modern world treatment of Mediterranean and Black Sea regions, Asia Minor and Turkey. EPC also approved some adjustments to German administrative units proposed by colleagues at Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, plus the placement of the Barents Sea region, North Calotte and Sápmi (Lapland). EPC approved the full version of Table 3 (Subdivisions for the Arts, for Individual Literatures, for Specific Literary Forms), and an expansion for Hakka (Han Chinese who speak Hakka dialect) in Table 5 (Ethnic and National Groups).

In the schedules, EPC approved updates in the following areas: 004-006 Computer science; 200 Religion; 300 Social sciences; 301-307 Sociology and anthropology; 320 Political science; 330 Economics; 340 Law; 400 Language; 610 Medicine and health; 780 Music; 800 Literature; and 960 History of Africa. EPC reviewed preliminary versions of 372.3-372.8 Elementary education in specific subjects, 640 Home and family management, 690 Buildings, 710 Civic and landscape art and 720 Architecture.

EPC scheduled a follow-up electronic Meeting 131A (to be held August 3–28, 2009), during which the committee will address use of the term "encompassing" in the DDC, plus minor issues in 400, 710 and 780. Meeting 132 will be held November 16–17, 2009, at the Library of Congress. The last meeting to approve content for inclusion in the next print edition of the DDC (DDC 23) will be held in late May / early June 2010. DDC 23 is scheduled to be published in early 2011.

Dewey Staff News

On March 9, 2009, **Michael Panzer** was appointed assistant editor of the DDC. Michael, who from 2002 to 2005 headed the technical team that translated Dewey into German, is the first member of a Dewey translation team to be appointed assistant editor. From May 2007 until his appointment as assistant editor, Michael served as global product manager of taxonomy services at OCLC. Prior to joining OCLC, Michael worked at Cologne University of Applied Sciences, where he was team leader of CrissCross,

a research project funded by the German Research Foundation focused on mapping SWD, DDC, RAMEAU and LCSH. Michael has an MA from Heinrich Heine University (Düsseldorf) in German literature with a minor in information science. He also attended the University of California, Davis, on a four-month research scholarship.

Dewey Section at the Library of Congress

Dewey Section classifiers and others assigned Dewey numbers to 48,727 titles during the period October 2008 through June 2009. The comparable figure for the same period last year was 31,098 titles.

Dewey Editorial Office

Please direct questions, comments or requests for information on the Dewey Decimal Classification to dewey@loc.gov, or:

Dewey Editorial Office
Library of Congress, Dewey Section
101 Independence Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20540-4292

Fax: 1-202-707-0279

(Note: Mail service may be slow to LC due to heightened security precautions.)

Group Subscriptions for Dewey Services

If your library is part of a consortium and wishes to subscribe to WebDewey and/or Abridged WebDewey, please contact Libbie Crawford at libbie_crawford@oclc.org or 1-800-848-5878, ext. 6346, to explore group subscription options.

Useful Dewey Links

Dewey Web site	www.oclc.org/dewey/
025.431: The Dewey blog	http://ddc.typepad.com
DeweyBrowser	www.oclc.org/research/researchworks/ddc/browser.htm
Classify	http://deweyresearch.oclc.org/classify2/
DDC Projects	www.slainte.org.uk/edugit/projects.htm
DDC Demonstrators	www.slainte.org.uk/edugit/demonstrators.htm
DDC Services	www.slainte.org.uk/edugit/services.htm
Dewey Documentation	www.oclc.org/support/documentation/dewey/
Dewey FAQ	www.oclc.org/support/questions/dewey/
DDC RSS Feeds	www.oclc.org/dewey/syndicated/rss.htm
New & Changed Entries	www.oclc.org/dewey/updates/new/
DDC Questions?	dewey@loc.gov (Dewey Editorial Office) dewey@oclc.org (licensing, group purchases, LIS program)