



Dewey Decimal Classification NEWS



August 2011
IFLA Edition

DDC 23 Workshop

A DDC 23 training workshop will be held immediately preceding the 2011 World Library and Information Conference (IFLA) on 12 August 2011 at Universidad Metropolitana in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

International Dewey Users Meeting

OCLC will sponsor the International Dewey Users Meeting (formerly known as the Dewey Translators Meeting) in conjunction with the World Library and Information Conference (IFLA) in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on 16 August 2011, 9:00–11:00, Room 202A, Puerto Rico Convention Center. The agenda will include highlights of DDC 23, additional proposed expansions to 297.1-297.8 Islam, features and planned enhancements to WebDewey 2.0, recent developments in the MARC 21 formats concerning DDC data, extensions to Dewey linked data and an update from OCLC Research.

OCLC Stand 406

Stop by OCLC Stand 406 to see DDC 23 and WebDewey 2.0.

DDC 23

Edition 23 of the Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index (DDC 23) was published in April 2011. A short webinar on the new edition is available at <http://tinyurl.com/3cyqn7q>.

WebDewey 2.0

WebDewey 2.0 is now available. It features an easy-to-navigate, simple user interface with local control over the display of record elements. For the first time, BISAC-DDC mappings are featured in the service. WebDewey 2.0 includes a generic user interface script to support access to Dewey data in different

languages, and access to different terminology sets. Future releases of WebDewey 2.0 will include features such as display of the history information associated with each class, number-building assistance, and support for WebDewey as a source of user-generated content. Current WebDewey subscribers can access the new system with their existing authorizations and passwords at <http://dewey.org/webdewey>. The WebDewey interface in Connexion will be available until Abridged Edition 15 becomes available in WebDewey 2.0, at which time users will be redirected to the new service.

Abridged Edition 15 and 200 Religion Class

Abridged Edition 15 and *200 Religion Class* are expected to be published in late 2011. The Dewey editors are working closely with colleagues at Bibliotheca Alexandrina on additional updates and expansions for Islam to be featured in *200 Religion Class*. A discussion paper on this matter is available at <http://www.oclc.org/dewey/discussion/papers/297islam.pdf> with comments due 12 August. Key elements of the proposal will also be addressed during the International Dewey Users Meeting on 16 August.

Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee (EPC)

The Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee (EPC) held Meeting 134 at OCLC headquarters in Dublin, Ohio, 8–10 June 2011. The first day's agenda included several minor updates to DDC 23, and review of the proposed content for Abridged Edition 15 and 200 Religion Class. The rest of Meeting 134 was devoted to strategic planning. Members considered exhibits, demonstrations and presentations on a wide variety of topics related to the future of the content, representation, development and use of the DDC.

We are grateful to colleagues at the national libraries of Germany, Norway and Sweden who provided discussion papers. EPC has scheduled four electronic meetings in the second half of calendar year 2011. The committee will hold Meeting 135 at OCLC headquarters in Dublin, Ohio, in June 2012.

DDC Linked Data

Dewey.info

Assignable numbers accompanied by captions from the English, Italian and Vietnamese DDC Abridged Edition 14 data sets have been added as linked data to **dewey.info**. Dewey.info already contains the top three levels of the DDC in 11 languages; this new addition extends the breadth of Dewey linked data beyond the three-digit level to include approximately 3,500 additional records in each language. The service also includes a new display option besides the standard HTML and various machine-readable displays. The new view generates a shelf label that includes a Dewey number and captions in multiple languages, plus an optional user-defined hyperlink encoded as a QR code.

British Library

The British Library has included DDC linked data in the over 3 million BL bibliographic records recently released as linked data. A dewey.info URI is used to unambiguously identify the source edition of the Dewey numbers (e.g., <<http://dewey.info/scheme/e22>>); another URI pattern is used as a datatype to distinguish a “regular” number from a “Dewey number.”

Deutsche Nationalbibliothek

Over the course of 2010, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek has released a considerable amount of its authority data in formats compatible with the Semantic Web, mostly as linked data. The linked data version of SWD, the German subject authority data, includes all mappings to the DDC that have been established by the CrissCross project, with links using the URI pattern as implemented in dewey.info. In addition, the DDC-based subjects groups used in the German National Bibliography and an abbreviated version of all class records in the German translation of the DDC are included in the downloadable RDF content. Both sets contain links to equivalent concepts in dewey.info.

Translations

The Dewey translations highlighted below are all using translation-support software developed by Pansoft. The Pansoft software imports and exports DDC data using the same MARCXML format used to export the English-language DDC data and to represent DDC data in WebDewey 2.0. Pansoft also developed WebDewey 2.0 under an agreement with OCLC.

Arabic: A new Arabic translation of the full DDC is under way at Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA). An immediate product of the collaboration between the Dewey editorial team and the Arabic translation team is the update to two areas of Islam—historical periods of Islam and Hadith (Traditions)—already featured in the print version of DDC 23 (plus WebDewey 2.0). Additional updates of Islam will be included in 200 Religion Class and future releases of WebDewey 2.0. We are also working on expansions in 340 Law to cover topics with literary warrant in Islamic law. Iman Khairy, currently on leave from BA on a Fulbright to study in the U.S., paid a working visit to the Dewey editorial office at the Library of Congress 31 May–2 June 2011.

French: In cooperation with Pansoft, we have made a prototype French version of WebDewey 2.0 (using French DDC 22 data) available to a limited group of testers at several francophone national libraries.

German: We are working closely with colleagues at DNB on matters related to data migration and improvements to WebDewey 2.0. In particular, we are developing the specification for user contribution/number-building assistance in WebDewey 2.0 in cooperation with DNB colleagues.

Indonesian: Later in 2011, we expect work to commence at the National Library of Indonesia on the Indonesian translation of the abridged edition.

Norwegian: The National Library of Norway has begun work on a translation of the full DDC in a Web-only version—the previous five Norwegian translations were customized abridged editions. The Norwegian team has launched a website and blog in conjunction with work on the new Norwegian edition: <http://www.nb.no/norsk-webdewey>. Elise Conradi, head of the Norwegian translation team, paid a working visit to the Dewey editorial office at the Library of Congress 23–26 May 2011.

Swedish: The National Library of Sweden launched the first version of the mixed Swedish-English translation of DDC 22 under the new WebDewey 2.0 interface in early January 2011. Planning is under way to launch DDC 23 mixed data later this year.

Vietnamese: An agreement for a Vietnamese translation of the full DDC was signed between OCLC and the National Library of Vietnam during the World Library and Information Congress (76th IFLA General Conference and Assembly) in Gothenburg, Sweden, in August 2010. Work is expected to begin shortly on the translation of DDC 23.

Upcoming Dewey Events

Strength in numbers: Going local, global, and mobile with Dewey, a CILIP Executive Briefing on the Dewey Decimal Classification featuring a panel of 12 international experts, will be held 15 September 2011 in London. The program plus registration information is available at <http://www.cilip.org.uk/dewey2011/pages/default.aspx>.

Dewey in Scotland, a half-day seminar organized by the Cataloguing and Indexing Group Scotland, will be held 16 September, National Library of Scotland, Boardroom, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh.

Dewey Staff News

Giles Martin, assistant editor of the DDC since 1999, plans to retire from OCLC in August 2011 and return to Australia. During his tenure as assistant editor, Mr. Martin played a pivotal role in the development of several schedules, the elimination of unbalanced spans, and the conversion of DDC data from a proprietary format to one based on the MARC 21 formats for classification and authority data. Mr. Martin, the first member of the editorial staff from outside the United States, joined the editorial team in 1999 after a distinguished career that included the following professional posts: cataloguer, University of Sydney; librarian, systems section, University of New South Wales Library; and successive posts at the University of Newcastle Libraries as librarian, senior librarian (cataloguing), head cataloguer, deputy technical services librarian (monographs), and librarian in charge of quality control. Prior to his appointment as assistant editor, Mr. Martin was a member of the Decimal Classification Editorial Policy

Committee 1993–1999, served on the Australian Bibliographic Network (ABN) Standards Committee, the ABN Subject Headings Review Panel and the Australian Committee on Cataloguing. Mr. Martin holds a bachelor of arts degree in English from the University of New South Wales, a Diploma of Librarianship from the University of New South Wales, and a bachelor of commerce degree in legal studies from the University of Newcastle.

Alex Kyrios, a recent MSLS graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science, has joined OCLC as a summer intern based in the Dewey Editorial Office at LC. His primary focus is analyzing and editing data in Abridged Edition 15, which is being developed using machine-assistance.

Dewey Section at the Library of Congress

Dewey Section classifiers and others at the Library of Congress assigned Dewey numbers to 66,465 titles during the period October 2009–September 2010. The comparable figure for October 2008–September 2009 was 65,386 titles.

The Library of Congress began assigning numbers from the new edition on 2 May 2011.

Dewey Editorial Office

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

Dewey Editorial Office
Library of Congress
Dewey Section
101 Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20540-4292
Fax: 1-202-707-0279

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

Useful Dewey Links

Dewey website	www.oclc.org/dewey/
025.431: The Dewey blog	http://ddc.typepad.com
DeweyBrowser	www.oclc.org/research/researchworks/ddc/browser.htm
Classify	http://classify.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/
Dewey.info	http://dewey.info
World Digital Library	www.wdl.org/en/
DDC RSS Feeds	www.oclc.org/dewey/syndicated/rss.htm
DDC Questions?	dewey@loc.gov (Dewey Editorial Office) dewey@oclc.org (licensing, group purchases, LIS program)