

Dewey News

August 2018 IFLA Edition

Get Dewey updates at IFLA

The International Dewey Users Meeting will be Tuesday, 28 August, 8.30–10.30 in Lounge 1 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center. Elise Conradi, EDUG Chair, and Harriet Aagaard, EDUG Secretary, will provide an overview from the 2018 European DDC Users Group meeting. Peter Werling from Pansoft GmbH will provide the latest technical updates for WebDewey. Also, hear from Dewey Editor Alex Kyrios and Caroline Saccucci, Head of the CIP and Dewey Section at the Library of Congress.

Dewey Program at the Library of Congress

As of June 2018 for Fiscal Year 2018, the LC Dewey Program assigned Dewey numbers to 34,338 bibliographic records; an additional 12,661 numbers were assigned to CIP e-book records. Northwestern University, Douglas County Libraries, Queens Library, and the U.S. Government Publishing Office, all members of the ECIP Cataloging Partnership Program, assigned numbers to 1,339 CIP records. 3,254 Dewey numbers were assigned by AutoDewey, and 2,759 were added to ISSN records. 31,821 records processed via the copy cataloging work stream included Dewey numbers, identified in the 082 field with a second indicator 4. The Fiscal Year 2018 total to date for all DDC numbers assigned in LC records was 86,172.

In addition to DDC assignment, Dewey classifiers added Library of Congress Classification to 1,077 ECIPs cataloged by the National Library of Medicine, and completed the subject cataloging.

Caroline Saccucci, CIP and Dewey Program Manager, was also named as a Library of Congress appointee to the IFLA Standing Committee on Subject Analysis and Access.

New faces on the Dewey editorial team

We're delighted to announce the appointment of Violet Fox as a new editor on the Dewey team.

Violet previously worked as a summer Dewey intern in 2012 and 2013; since then, she's worked in cataloging and metadata at the

University of Illinois at Chicago and St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. She received her MLIS from the University of Washington in 2013 and has an undergraduate degree in history. Her professional interests include exploring the ethical implications of classification and empowering library workers to be an active part of making subject access more responsive to user needs. In her spare time, Violet sends snail mail, visits offbeat museums, organizes zine events, and writes about roadside attractions in her own zine.



We also welcomed back Rachel Maxwell as our intern. A recent graduate of the University of Maryland iSchool, Rachel served as our intern last year as well. She continued her work reviewing mappings of Dewey numbers to Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) which were previously published in People, Places & Things (PPT), identifying where they're suitable to publish in WebDewey and where they need updates.

Dewey Editorial Policy Committee (EPC) reports progress

EPC has conducted two electronic meetings (140A and 140B) since their most recent face-to-face meeting in June 2017. Topics reviewed and approved at these meetings include:

- Psychological assessments and personality tests
- Ethics of torture
- History, geographic treatment, biography of criminology
- Groups of students
- Human microbiome
- Probiotic foods
- Seaweeds as food
- Child rearing with respect to groups of people
- Veganism
- Electronic games
- Fantasy sports
- Road maps
- Early history of Italy

The end of 2017 saw the end of 12 years of distinguished service from EPC member Andrea Kappler. The editorial team would like to thank her for her contributions and service. We'd also like to welcome a new member: last year, EPC and ALCTS, a division of the American Library Association, agreed to a plan to provide a permanent voting seat on the committee to be selected by the European DDC Users Group (EDUG). EDUG selected Elise Conradi of the National Library of Norway to be the first such representative, and she began her EPC service at the beginning of 2018.

The next face-to-face meeting of EPC is scheduled for 15–16 October at OCLC headquarters in Dublin, Ohio, USA. The meeting will enable the editorial team to present a full agenda to the committee, after Rebecca Green's retirement and Violet Fox coming on as a new editor.

Enhanced data in WebDewey history box

In years past, preparation for a new print edition included a series of decisions on relocations, discontinuations, etc. For example, which indications of where topics had been before being relocated, or of where they had been relocated to, should be removed? Until very recently, the results of this work as done in preparation for the 2011 publication of the print DDC 23 were still visible in WebDewey. But you will no longer see captions, including notes, or class-here notes with “[formerly DDC number],” and you will no longer find relocation or discontinuation notes in the Notes box. All of the information about the movement of topics from one Dewey number to another will now be visible only in the History box.

Previously, when the entire contents of a number were moved to another number, the relevant notes would read simply “Relocated to such-and-such number;” “Discontinued to such-and-such number;” and so forth. Since information in the History box will accumulate over time, it's important to indicate which topics were relocated or discontinued at a specific time. (Always make sure you check the edition and date for when a change occurred.) All notes in the History box that pertain to DDC 23 should now include an explicit topic. Topics will be added to notes from earlier editions as circumstances allow.

European DDC Users Group (EDUG) Meetings

The European DDC Users Group met in Bern, Switzerland at the Swiss National Library, 26–27 April, 2018. The group discussed topics such as community involvement in Dewey development, Dewey as linked data, automatic classification, and mapping of Dewey numbers to other controlled vocabularies. The 2019 meeting will be held at the National Library of Sweden, in Stockholm.

Dewey by the Numbers

We use a Dewey “scorecard” to give users a quick overview of the Dewey database (2018-06-01):

	Now in DDC 23	New in DDC 23
Explicit assignable numbers in schedules (including built numbers)	41,452	4,446
Facets (building blocks from Tables 1–6 and internal add tables, added to show languages, geographic areas, ethnic/national groups, genres, etc.)	11,594	686
Relative Index terms	105,140	110,595
LCSH mappings	39,495	45,971
MeSH mappings	381	447

Watch for quarterly updates on O25.431: The Dewey Blog oc.lc/deweyblog.

Farewell to Dr. Rebecca Green

We are sad to say that Dr. Rebecca Green retired on 30 June, after more than 11 years of distinguished service. Rebecca joined us in January 2007 from the University of Maryland, where she was a faculty member. She remained active in presenting and publishing scholarly work as a Dewey editor.



In the Dewey schedules, Rebecca’s efforts led to new or enhanced developments in many areas, including 3D printing, big data, biometric identification, computer security, digital media, institutional repositories; linguistics; local church, Latter Day Saint movement, Orthodox church; political ideologies; concertos; and period notation for localities (coming soon to WebDewey). Rebecca was also involved in long-term efforts to implement a major revision for angiosperms and to determine how best to represent indigenous nations.

Rebecca also enjoyed working with Dewey as data. She has been integrally involved in efforts to enhance Dewey data with (“hidden”) fields that enable WebDewey’s number building engine to do its work. Her computing efforts led to the basis of the logical abridgment of DDC 23 into Abridged 15, the exposing of additional history data (more coming this summer), the machine-assisted identification of equivalence and hierarchical relationships between Relative Index terms, and—not to be forgotten!—the identification of the longest existing DDC 23 palindromes.

She would like to thank the Dewey educators, translators, classifiers, and software developers that help make our work what it is.

Learn more about WebDewey subscriptions

To learn more about WebDewey subscriptions for individual libraries, or if your library is part of a consortium and wishes to subscribe to WebDewey, please contact your local OCLC office (see listing at oc.lc/webdeweyorders) or contact Sandi Jones at OCLC: joness@oclc.org, +1-614-764-6082.

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.

You've got questions, we've got answers

Please direct questions, comments or requests for information on the Dewey Decimal Classification to dewey@oclc.org.

To order WebDewey, please contact deweyorders@oclc.org.

Questions about the Library of Congress assignment of Dewey numbers should be directed to dewey@loc.gov.

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

 @DeweyTeam

USEFUL DEWEY LINKS

WebDewey:

dewey.org/webdewey

Dewey webinars & presentations:

oc.lc/deweyevents

025.431: The Dewey Blog:

oc.lc/deweyblog

Dewey training courses:

oc.lc/deweyresources

Discussion papers:

oc.lc/deweydiscussionpapers

Editorial Policy Committee:

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

www.oclc.org



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