

EDUG

Meeting, June 12, 2007
Swiss National Library, Bern

Minutes

Present: Heidrun Alex, Gordon Dunsire, Magda Heiner-Freiling, Yvonne Jahns, Caroline Kent, Karin Kleiber, Anne-Céline Lambotte, Patrice Landry, Pia Leth, Joan Mitchell, Federica Paradisi, Ulrike Reiner, Ingebjørg Rype, Vera Uhlmann, Karin von Wartburg

1. Welcome and introductions

Patrice Landry welcomed all participants and everyone introduced themselves. Patrice Landry chaired the meeting and the minutes were taken by Karin von Wartburg and Patrice Landry of the Swiss National Library.

2. Agenda

The agenda was modified. Point 4 was changed to: Bylaws- Discussion. Point 5 and 6 were merged.

3. General discussion on EDUG

The purpose of the discussion was to allow each participant to present views and issues relating to the DDC that could be of interest to EDUG. The discussion also focused on which role EDUG should have.

List of issues raised and discussed:

- **Relation between EDUG and EPC:** this point was clarified. EPC is principally concerned with the English DDC and EPC representatives are from English speaking countries. British representation in EPC should not prevent British experts on DDC from working in EDUG.
- **Relation between CENL and EDUG:** EDUG aims at representing European national libraries that use and implement the DDC. The relationship between EDUG and the CENL will be further discussed with the current Chair of the CENL, Ms. Elisabeth Niggemann.
- **Multilingual DDC edition (Common European DDC database):** this issue was raised by several participants. The wish is to have one access to various European DDC versions
- **Expansions (especially T2):** It is expressed that there should only exist a limited number of local expansions as to allow for European interoperability and understanding of the DDC numbers. This is seen as an asset to the use of DDC in a rational way. In regard to a possible future digital library where the DDC could be used, it should be transparent to users which expansion is applied.
- **Marking in MARC-Field specific local version of DDC used, e.g. 22/ger:** All local expansions should be accessible in order to be able to read the DDC numbers. Another issue is the problem of dealing with changes in expansions. These changes should be communicated and accessible.
- **Regarding T2:** In Germany geographic names are mapped with verbal indexing in order to facilitate access.
- **Indexing policy regarding length of DDC numbers:** It would be good if the policy regarding the length of the numbers were published / known by the European partners.
- **Built numbers:** There's a strong interest in sharing within Europe built numbers (for instance in European law). Projects (products) such as Melvil and Automatic analysis of DDC notations (U. Reiner) should be more widely publicized.
- **Areas where the European cooperation could help improve Dewey:** EU policies / European law, Education (high priority item for OCLC). Archeology, Science, History (so far not on the OCLC list of high priority items)
- **Expectations towards the European user group:** Bringing in the European view regarding certain issues in Dewey. EDUG seen as a way to develop opinion building among European libraries, developing procedure of working on proposals towards changes in DDC. OCLC

welcomes the European initiative. OCLC is very receptive towards inputs from working groups or others. Timetable: OCLC has so far not yet distributed the timetable regarding the work on DDC. They will do that asap. OCLC – EDUG: common procedure as with all working groups

- **Edition of DDC / Changes of DDC:** This issue was raised regarding the use of the printed edition which is published at about a 7 year interval. The print version is a snapshot of the DDC, the valid version of DDC is the electronic file. The authority file does include a history field which informs about the changes made to the entry respective. There is a wish that in order to ensure interoperability on a European level, changes in DDC – especially big changes, in T1 for instance – should be realized at the same time.
- **Projects concerning DDC:** The question was asked if OCLC keeps a list of all DDC projects and the answer is no. One of EDUG's role could be to monitor different DDC European projects, especially in regard to cooperative funding on European level.
- **Promotion of DDC:** EDUG should have information about projects and work related to DDC within Europe. Also EDUG should know the positions towards DDC in European countries, especially in regards to central and eastern European countries where UDC is still widely used. Improving geographic topics of those countries in DDC should be made in cooperation with the countries concerned.
- **Technical issues:** Combination of Web Dewey and Melvil. This would improve the work both for retrieval and access.
- **Literary warrant:** A question was raised regarding literary warrant from a European perspective. The DDC uses WorldCat as a reference database. WorldCat includes European libraries and electronic documents.
- **Public domain:** Releasing relevant documents and software in the public domain could result in interesting developments.

4. EDUG Bylaws - Discussion

A draft version of EDUG bylaws was discussed and modifications were proposed. A revised version of these bylaws is attached to the minutes. This document will be circulated among participating institutions and individuals and will be further discussed at the next EDUG meeting.

5. Issues and plan for 2007-2008

Participants decided that work could start immediately and three working groups will be set up in the next few weeks.

Working Group for technical matters

A working group for technical matters is set up. Gordon Dunsire from Glasgow will set up an organizational webpage for the technical group. Three months before the next EDUG meeting, the agenda (issues to be discussed) of this working group should be fixed and communicated among the participants of the EDUG.

Working Group for law:

Chaired by Yvonne Jahns. At the next IFLA meeting in Durban (August 19-23), Y. Jahns will call a meeting of this EDUG Working Group. It is not yet clear whether law will be discussed during the spring or autumn agenda of OCLC.

Working Group for Education

Chaired by Magda Heiner-Freiling. She will be looking for contributors to this working group.

6. Other EDUG Business

The next meeting will be held in Frankfurt on April 22/23 2008.

Patrice Landry will be the Acting Chair of EDUG until the Frankfurt meeting.

Website for EDUG: The Swiss National Library will host the EDUG Website where the information on the first EDUG meeting as well as presentations given at the EDUG workshop will be made available.