EDUG *European DDC Users Group*
DDC 025.431094   *Dewey in Europe : Europe in Dewey*

14th Annual EDUG Meeting
Thursday, 5 November, 2020

1. Opening remarks

2. Agenda

3. Minutes of the Stockholm meeting 2020
   Approved

4. Election of Office bearers 2021-2022
   a. Candidates for Chair: Elise Conradi (Biblioteksentralen, Norway)
   b. Candidates for Vice-Chair: Tina Mengel (German National Library)
   c. Candidates for Secretary: Harriet Aagaard (National Library of Sweden)
   All candidates were elected/reelected

5. Election of EPC-representative 2021-2023
   a. Candidates: Elise Conradi (Biblioteksentralen, Norway)

   Elise has served for one three-year term of the maximum of four terms. She would like to continue as she thought it took at least one term to really understand the work done in EPC.
   Elise was reelected as EPC-representative.

6. National reports (brief summaries)
   Elise asked all to give a short national report and send a written report to Harriet after the meeting.
   See Appendix for national reports.

   Terrance informed us about the British discussion about changing the "approximate the whole" rule.

7. Report from OCLC/EPC
   Alex made a brief report.
   See the Appendix for the report.

8. Discussion

   A) OCLC:s work on Dewey as linked data
   Elise informed about the OCLC project about looking into Dewey as linked data. Elise has been on an advisory board with monthly meetings with Stephan Schindehette from OCLC, and since January 2020 Heidrun and Tina have also been participating. The project ended in June and Elise had expected to able to at least show bullets with important findings, but will not receive that until next week. Elise was disappointed as this has been an EDUG question for a long time.

   B) Classification source – MARC21 update proposal
   Alex has earlier asked for input on the proposal for a MARC21 update to be able to specify date instead of version concerning Classification source. https://www.loc.gov/marc/mac/2020/2020-dp08.html In the proposal an additional $e *Date of classification number assignment based on electronic version* was proposed to be added to both 082 and 083.

   Based on the response from DNB Alex has started thinking about using the existing $2 field instead. This would not need changes in library systems, but would not be as easy to spot as a new description as a new $e field.

   Harriet asked for a written example of the new proposal with use of $2.

   Rania was in favour of better ways of expressing source of classification as different libraries in Egypt use different versions of Dewey.

   Elise asked Alex if an update with $0 to be able to express a persistent identifier is planned? Alex answered that has not been discussed but would be logical to do in the future.

   C) Alex is now the only editor
   Elise informed that Violet Fox had been laid off by OCLC in October and that Alex is now the only editor. Even though Juli and Winton still volunteer to do Dewey work, it is too much work for one editor. Last year EPC was concerned about the use of volunteer work for an essential part of EPC updates and questions.

   In 2015 EDUG protested against the removal of the role Editor in chief. Elise suggested a new letter to OCLC about the situation today, but was open to other solutions. All were in favour of writing a new letter.

   Terrance remarked that the strength of Dewey has always been the robust editorial control. Dewey is seen as an international standard. Translation teams all over the world spend a lot of time and effort updating and translating Dewey. It was a bit disappointing that this was done without prior warning. The world is changing quickly

and changes to a classification system must be done quickly as well.

Heidrun thought that we should send a joint letter, but not with separate statements from each national library as attachments.

Tina added that it was important for translators to be able to ask questions about the translations.

Elise asked for other ways of reaction. Terrance thought it would be best to start with a letter and ask for more details from OCLC.

Elise will write a draft and asked all to contribute by e-mail.

9. EDUG contact information

Harriet started looking at our e-mail contact list in 2019, but has not had the time to continue working with it. It is both useful to have contact persons for all member institutions, and an updated e-mail list of persons interested in getting information from EDUG.

After a brief discussion it was decided that Harriet would send country information to the contact persons for each country to be verified.

10. Issues and plans for 2021

The National Library of Austria will host the EDUG 2021 meeting in Vienna on May 6-7. If it is not possible to meet in person, the meeting will be digital.

11. Other EDUG business

No other business.

Appendix: OCLC/EPC report and National reports

OCLC Report (Alex Kyrios, Editor)

There is much to report on since the last EDUG meeting in May 2019!
EPC Meeting 142 was held at the Library of Congress 23-24 September of last year. We have held electronic meetings 142A, 142B, and 142C since then. The date of face-to-face Meeting 143, originally scheduled for September 2020, remains uncertain due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. I anticipate at least one more electronic meeting before EPC 143, perhaps more.

Deborah Rose-Lefmann finished her last term on EPC in 2019; her successor, appointed by the American Library Association, is Daniel Joudrey, a professor at the Simmons University School of Library and Information Science in Boston. Danny brings an educator's perspective, a wealth of experience of involvement with ALA's Subject Analysis Committee, and was previously an assistant to Arlene Taylor when she was on EPC.

The worldwide Dewey community is contributing substantially to DDC development through authoring or coauthoring of proposals for EPC, now constituting a large portion of such proposals. The Dewey Editorial Support System (ESS), the master database of the English version, is open to volunteers working on DDC development. If you're interested, I can get you started at any time, though I am working with Pansoft to make ESS more friendly before widely publicizing this!

Stephan Schindehette of OCLC led a working group on Dewey as linked data, including some EDUG members. A report of the group's discussions and next steps should be released next week.

At the virtual ALA meeting this year, I presented a discussion paper for modernizing citation of DDC numbers in MARC 21 to the MARC Advisory Committee (MAC). This was largely well received. The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek gave some valuable feedback recommending two new subfields rather than the changing of an existing one, and the feedback that I heard from EDUG on this point agreed. I will soon be finalizing a formal proposal for MAC to consider during the virtual ALA Midwinter meeting.

Of course, the coronavirus pandemic has presented disruptions beyond the postponement of EPC 143. While remote work has meant some community members have more time to work on proposals for EPC, others have had difficulty just keeping up with their regular jobs, or understandably have larger concerns to deal with. Last month, we held the first synchronous virtual session in association with EPC 142C. Despite the difficulty of finding a time that works for members worldwide, seven of ten EPC members joined, along with observers from the Library of Congress, to discuss exhibits and to salute Jonathan Furner, who completes his final EPC term this year. The virtual session was well received, and we plan to continue it for future EPC electronic meetings.

National report Austria

AK Library Vienna (AK Bibliothek Wien für Sozialwissenschaften): The library uses the DDC for the listing of new acquisitions and also for indexing. Currently documents of the Sowidok, a collection of newspaper articles from 1969-2001 (in total about 1 million articles) are digitized and indexed with the DDC.

Austrian National Library: DDC subject categories are assigned to all resources for classification in the Austrian National Bibliography. DDC notations are also retrieved from external data bases (above all DNB).

Library and Archive Services of the University of Vienna (Universitätsbibliothek der Universität Wien): Classification by DDC is conducted by single subject libraries. For the institutional repository PHAIDRA shortened DDC numbers are assigned partly.

Upper Austrian Federal State Library (Oberoesterreichische Landesbibliothek): Classification of books for open stacks with full DDC-numbers according to the newest German online edition. Shelving of open stacks is organized accordingly plus letters of author/title, sometimes with shortened numbers. As for books stored in the stacks only part of it, namely „Obderennsia", are classified using full Dewey numbers. Dewey is also used for facet-building in the search interface Primo.

Library, Archive, Collections, Austrian Academy of Sciences (Bibliothek, Archiv & Sammlungen, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften): DDC is used for the project "Linked Cat+". Here, session reports of the Imperial Academy of Sciences in Vienna from 1848 to 1918 (more than 5000 data records to date) are digitized and indexed with the DDC.

Single libraries and departments of libraries in Austria like the **C3-Bibliothek für Entwicklungspolitik** are using DDC for indexing and/or shelving.

National report from Egypt

The Arabic translation of the Dewey Decimal Classification is a colossal translation project. The Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) agreements with the OCLC and PANSOFT came into fruition, in February 2019, when the Arabic translation started to be uploaded onto the International DDC Translation Software. An action plan has been put forward for the uploading of an already completed Arabic translation, on Word documents, of DDC 23: Volumes 1, 2 and 3.

The PANSOFT Translation Software on the BA server has the OCLC updates only up to March 2019. The translation of *Volume 1 Tables updates* has been completed and uploaded, in its totality, onto the PANSOFT Translation Software. As to *Volume 1 Manual*, *Volume 2* and *Volume 3*, the updates are still work in progress.

The uploading of *Volume 4 Relative Index*, with updates, has started at the end of 2019, however, it can only be fully completed after all the remaining work in progress, of the updates of the three Volumes, is done.

National report from Switzerland

Though the classification of new additions to the open stack collection and other collections (Swiss Literary Archives, Department of Conservation) has been maintained as best we could during these difficult times, the other projects did not advance much. The University of Applied Sciences of Fribourg has been requested to conduct a study concerning the integration of our old subject catalogue in our main catalogue and, hopefully, the evaluation will also take into consideration the mapping of the UDC numbers with the DDC subject categories.

National Report from the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek/German National Library

As already mentioned in the last National Report, subject cataloguing in the DNB is currently following the transition scenario for intellectual subject cataloguing that was determined on the 1st July 2019. According to this scenario, the interim period will last 3 to 5 years. (https://www.dnb.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/Professionell/Erschliessen/veraenderungenInhaltserschliessungDnbJuli2019.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=6)

This means, that only academic publications from the publisher's booktrade in so-called "book-related" subjects will be cataloged intellectually (i.e. with GND subject headings and full DDC numbers). Book-related subjects are subjects for which users have a clear need for printed

academic books from German publishers, and considered as such are primarily the humanities and social sciences.

In number terms this means that in 2019 the DNB assigned full Dewey numbers to about 55.000 publications. For 2020 the number will be slightly below 50.000.

Updating of the German DDC has been continued as usual in 2020. With the EPC exhibit number in field 990 the processing of updates in chronological order is much easier than before. This approach is complemented by the translation of high priority updates, such as changes in geographic areas.

Work is still continuing on the production of Short Numbers for the machine-based assignment of Dewey numbers for online publications, which have never been assigned intellectually before. Meanwhile, the machine-based assignment of DDC Short Numbers for 38 Subject Categories is productive, including all Subject Categories in the 500s and 600s.

It is planned to replace the currently used software of the company Averbis by the tool Annif (https://annif.org/) of the National Library of Finland within the next 2 to 3 years and we hope to achieve better results in the future, as Annif can be better adapted to our needs.

For the year 2021 we plan to make the German DDC data under the current Creative Commons license (CC 3.0 BY-NC-ND) available as Linked Data.

National report from Sweden

Most university libraries use Dewey. During 2020 a few more public libraries have started with Dewey, but the majority of public libraries and school libraries still use the Swedish classification system SAB even though it has not been updated since 2013.

Translation and updating of the Swedish WebDewey is continuing, but it is still a mixed translation.

New digital training courses has been published due to the pandemic and more courses are planned.

National report from Norway 2019

The Norwegian translation of Webdewey
The Norwegian editorial team are by and large up to date with the Norwegian translation

Norwegian built numbers

The Norwegian WebDewey continues to grow, the current total of user-contributed built numbers are over 30, 000. These numbers are checked by Dewey editors at the National Library. Invalid numbers are rejected and notification is sent to the contributer. Relative Index terms are checked to make sure they adhere to rules and patterns in WebDewey. Dewey continues to be used by all public and school libraries and by most university and research libraries.

Mergers of Norwegian municipalities and counties

119 Norwegian municipalities and 19 counties were merged, and the result was 47 new municipalities and 11 counties. These mergers brought about some changes in Webdewey. The subdivisions of the Norwegian municipalities only exist in the Norwegian Webdewey.

The American Webdewey editorial staff assisted the Norwegian editorial staff at the National Library of Norway with procedyres and checklists and with quality control of the Norwegian proposals.

The municipalities' original dewey numbers were reused according to population size, area size, and literary warrant.

The original names of the municipalities were kept as relative index terms and can still be used for searches. Relocation notes are given in the history box.he numbers of the merged counties are based on population size, area size, and literary warrant as well. As a consequence of the mergers, the new regions is not superordinate to all municipalities in the region. The Norwegian WebDewey editorial staff has also changed all the built mumbers that have relative index terms containing new municipality- or county names

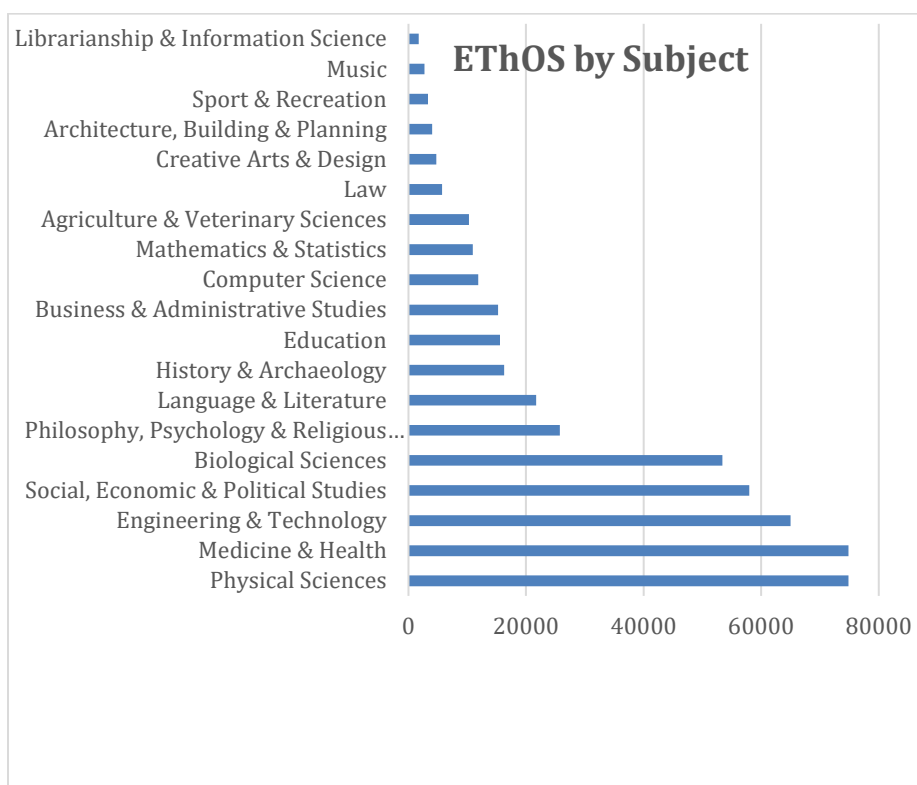**Use of index terms as subject headings?**

The National Library is now working on a project testing if and how the index terms might be used as subject headings.

United Kingdom

Due to other priorities, the BL project to generate DDC numbers from its former *Science Reference and Information Services Classification Scheme* (SRIS) has been suspended. This hybrid project is based on a mapping of the SRIS schedules to DDC. Machine processing is

used to add DDC to records containing the equivalent SRIS class in areas where it is both safe to do so and justified by user transactions – classifiers assigning the same in areas not meeting these criteria. To date the project has assigned DDC numbers in *Astronomy*, *Geology*, *Pharmacology*, *Medicine*, *Mathematics* and the *Animal Kingdom*. The aim is to process additional sets in future.

The BL *E-Theses Online Service* (EThOS) continues to use DDC to select suitable records to meet the requirements of individual researchers working in particular fields, 90% of records on EThOS now having at least an Abridged DDC number. Examples of data supply based on DDC for inclusion in subject-based services include: ADIT (*Arts and Crafts*), DBLP (*Computer Science*), DDM (*Musicology*), University of Oxford (*Education*), FLAX (*Law*), Freshney Consulting (*Immunology*), ViFaMath (*Mathematics*), RSC (*Chemistry*). EThOS continues to use DDC to analyse its full dataset in order to provide an overview of UK research in particular disciplines:

Tabell 1

Tabell 2 ETHOS by Subject

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National report from Iceland

The use of Dewey in Iceland has not changed since last year. It can be said that we are set in our ways of using the system.

Icelandic libraries of all kinds continue using Dewey for organizing their collections. We use the English version of WebDewey. Some smaller libraries use the Icelandic edition from 2002 (translation of the 13th abriged edition).

The National and University Library (NULI) uses the Dewey system in the National Bibliography and Dewey numbers are, as well, used for organizing the NULI's digital depository – Rafhladan.is

Icelandic Music and Sound Archive is now a part of NULI. Its collection consists of various material such as sheet music, cassettes, CDs, DVDs etc. A part of that collection has now been classified according to the Dewey system.

The tendency now is to use broader classification due to increased use of subject headings and for the fact that Dewey numbers are not visible to the end user in the Consortium interface but are of course important for shelf browsing.

National report from France.

Dewey training

At the BnF, until 2019 only printed documents were subject to Dewey indexing. So, since last year, the documents of the audiovisual department - moving images, multimedia, sound - have been indexed in Dewey.
Training was provided for the teams processing these documents and was spread over the years 2019 and 2020 before the 1st confinement which took place at the end of March 2020.
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the initial trainings which usually take place in the spring and at the end of the year have been suspended.
A recent reflection is carried out on alternative solutions to train the trainees of the course 2020 (and the following ones) in a context where the training face-to-face is always impossible.
Until now, the 3.5-day Dewey training has used the 23rd ed. Paper manual, because better suited for new learners. Also, distance learning is much less educational, as

trainees need interactions with peers. We must therefore find a solution to compensate. Trainees need group logic that makes even the most withdrawn at ease.

Dewey authority file at the BnF

Collaboration on the French translation of WebDewey with our Canadian counterparts occurs regularly as updates occur. Simply, I would like to insist, and no doubt also remind you, that at the BnF we have a Dewey authority file made up of an index, a title, notes, references, variants etc ... Thus, all modifications concerning indices, for example in the notes, all the updates of the index terms, or any creation of new numbers or any deletion of numbers have impacts not only in our authority file Dewey, but also on the level of indexing in bibliographic records that must be updated and sometimes corrected. It can get quite time consuming, but currently this rework work is up to date.
A work of resuming elementary Dewey authority file is also undertaken, it covers all areas.

News from Dewey to the BnF in the recently published book on subject indexing

In the book recently published on: "Material indexing in transition"- *"L'Indexation matière en transition"*, which explores all the changes at work around material indexing, a chapter is devoted to Dewey, addressing its use, its management at the BnF and the potential it offers.