# **Dewey in Germany**



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## Why DDC in Germany?

- no nationwide standard and no central bibliographical service in the field of classification
- 1998: Working Group on Classification founded
- 2000: feasibility study for the introduction of Dewey in Germany
- interests:
  - library networks/larger university libraries: offer access to cataloguing data with Dewey numbers which are often transferred from the LC or from the BL
  - German National Library: offer subject access to national as well as to international libraries and users

### Why DDC in Germany?

- main points of criticism:
  - DDC was considered to represent the state of the scientific and technical knowledge in late 19th century
  - the scheme was identified with the White Anglo-Saxon Protestant point of view
  - deficits in fields like German and European law and different viewpoints of the academic tradition and organisation of subjects
  - centralised and strict management and the legal and economic organisation
    - strong copyright restrictions
    - · high fees for licensing

### The project DDC German

- October 2002 August 2005
- funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG)
- aims:
  - translation of DDC 22
  - improvement of access in German terminology
  - development of electronic tools
- University of Applied Sciences in Cologne
  - translation
- German National Library
  - organisation and coordination
  - IT development

### **DDC 22 German: print version**

- Dewey-Dezimalklassifikation und Register. Begründet von Melvil Dewey. DDC 22. Herausgegeben von Joan S. Michell unter Mitwirkung von Julianne Beall, Giles Martin, Winton E. Matthews, Jr. und Gregorg R. New. Deutsche Ausgabe. Herausgegeben von Der Deutschen Bibliothek. 4 Bände. K.G. Saur, München 2005
- Lois Mai Chan, Joan S. Mitchell. Dewey-Dezimalklassifikation. Theorie und Praxis. Lehrbuch zur DDC 22. Deutsche Übersetzung. Herausgegeben von Der Deutschen Bibliothek. K.G. Saur, München 2006
- Übersichten Dewey-Dezimalklassifikation DDC 22 Deutsch. Herausgegeben von Der Deutschen Bibliothek. Leipzig, Frankfurt am Main, Berlin 2005

#### **DDC 22 German: Melvil**

- offered by the German National Library since January 2006
- licensing conditions
- MelvilClass: classification tool
  - possibility to store personal or institutional built numbers
- MelvilSearch: retrieval tool

### **DDC** in the German National Library

- 2004: DDC subject categories
- 2006: full Dewey numbers for two smaller series of the national bibliography
- 2007: full Dewey numbers for the main series of the national bibliography (approx. 100,000 titles per year)

### **Special features**

- possibility of two or even three Dewey numbers
- data model with separate fields to offer access to all elements in built numbers
- arrangements for standing room

### Other ways of using Dewey

- organisation of subject information services such as portals, virtual libraries or other presentations available in the web
- no interest in using Dewey completely
  - avoiding the process of number building
  - using the second or third Summary
  - using Dewey on a "medium level"

#### Where to work on?

- MARC 21
- CrissCross: DDC and SWD
- concordance between DDC and RVK
- potentialities:
  - backbone of many endeavours connected with retrieval
  - bring together classification and subject indexing

#### **Further information**

#### www.ddc-deutsch.de



