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NEWSLETTER

Classification and Indexing Section

Division of Bibliographic Control
IFLA

Nr 26   **November 2002**

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In this issue / Dans ce numéro

NEWSLETTER
IFLA
Classification and Indexing Section

1.   A few words from our Chair,
     Pia Leth
     Head, Bibliographic Development and Coordination,
     Kungliga Biblioteket, The National Library,Stockholm

To all members of the Section:

As Chair of the Standing Committee it gave me great pleasure to see so many of you at the meeting in Glasgow. To those of you who could not attend, I look forward to hopefully seeing you in Berlin next year. The conference itinerary in Glasgow afforded us with a number of valuable papers on the subject of knowledge organisation. My thanks go to all of you who contributed papers and to those of you who translated them.

Time has become an issue. And IFLA is striving to shorten delegate's time spent at a conference. It is an aim that would meet with much approval among those who wish to stay away for a shorter period of time. However, the proposal of reducing time spent at meetings held by Standing Committees was rejected more or less unanimously.

Both working groups had time to meet in Glasgow and the proposal set forward by Marcia and Max for a new working group to create a "virtual clearinghouse" for tools available on the Internet, seems to be a very constructive approach.

As I have personally benefited from studying the many reports on classification and indexing in other countries I naturally assume it to be of value to everyone else! I am therefore pleased that we can present reports from other countries not represented in the Standing Committee, hoping we will eventually achieve a broader international representation.

At Glasgow we talked about new ways to develop the section in relation to both IFLANET, the Newsletter and national reports. We discussed how we should target more countries to contribute with reports in this important field of knowledge organisation. Short abstracts could be presented in the Newsletter prior to IFLA meetings (and save the full reports for the next Newsletter). This was seen as one way in which to help us focus on the more important issues, enabling more time for discussions at the meetings. I would like to welcome everybody to contribute new ideas, suggestions etc. to improve our work.
Thanks Max for being such an excellent editor of our Newspaper.

Don't forget to visit IFLANET (http://www.ifla.org)
and especially our own section at: http://www.ifla.org/VII/s29/sci.htm

Pia

2.   Annual Report of the Section, 2001-2002

IFLA Annual Report September through October 2002
CLASSIFICATION AND INDEXING SECTION

Scope Statement

The Section on Classification and Indexing focuses on methods of providing subject access in catalogues, bibliographies, and indexes to documents of all kinds, including electronic documents. The Section serves as a forum for producers and users of classification and subject indexing tools, and it works to facilitate international exchange of information about methods of providing subject access. It promotes standardization and uniform application of classification and indexing tools by institutions generating or utilizing bibliographic records. It initiates and gives advice about research in the subject approach to information, and it disseminates the results through open meetings and publications. It works closely with the other Sections of the IFLA Division of Bibliographic Control, with the IFLA Core Programme for Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (UBCIM), and with the IFLA Section on Information Technology. It is interested in provision of subject access in libraries and information services of all types.

Membership and Officers

The section has 107 members (August 2002).

The standing committe consists of 19 members and one corresponding member.
The following nations are represented: Czech, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States. Pia Leth is chair and treasurer, Ia McIlwaine is secretary, Max Naudi is editor of the Newsletter and Marcia Zeng serves as information coordinator.

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Meetings – August 2002, Glasgow

The Section had a committe meeting in two sessions during the Glasgow conference attended by 23, 21 persons respectively, observers included. The main discussion focused on our section´s site on IFLANET, the Newsletter and the National Reports as important ways to fullfill our goals and inform about our work. We discussed how to target more countries to contribute with national reports and how to find time at our meetings to concentrate more on trends and new developements in the field of knowledge organization. Plans for Berlin and Buenos Aires were also discussed. The idea of a new working group on tools available on the web was proposed by Marcia Zeng and Max Naudi.

The officers participated in the division´s officers meeting, held in two sessions, during the conference.

Projects and Working Groups

- *Guidelines for the construction of multilingual thesauri*

    The Working Group, chaired by Gerhard Riesthuis (University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands) met in Glasgow and also in Amsterdam in October for its last meeting. It is expected that a final draft can be prepared.

- *Subject Access to Web Sites and Digital Libraries*

    The Working Group on Subject Access to Web Sites and Digital Libraries that was set up at Bangkok, under the chairmanship of Marcia Zeng met in Glasgow. Marcia Zeng also made a presentation at the Division Open Forum. She asked for contributions from more countries and languages, 50 sites have been covered, but 34 of them were in English. She has set up a website with a form making it easy to fill in. It is taking the lead in collaboration with the Section on Bibliography in monitoring subject access on Web-based Gateways.

Publications

- Newsletter, two issues have been published during the current year, both as hard copies and on IFLANET.
- Subject Retrieval in a Networked Environment : a report by I.C. McIlwaine. – IFLA, UBCIM Programme 2002.

Conference Programmes and Workshops, Glasgow 2002

The Section reported on its activities in the Open Forum of the Division of Bibliographic Control.

Open Session

The Open Session held on Tuesday the 20th August was entitled "Compatibilty and Integration in Subject Retrieval" comprising three presentations.
- Dennis Nicholson, "Subject-based interoperability: issues from the high level Thesaurus (HILT) Project". The paper dealt with cross-searching by subject in UK libraries, museums, archives and electronic services.
- Martin Kunz, "Sachliche Suche in verteilten Ressourcen : ein kurzer Überblick über neurere Entwicklungen" (Subject retrieval in distributed resources: a short overview of recent developments). Subject-based retrieval in distributed resources and different methods was discussed with examples from MACS, CARMEN and Economics Crosswalk.
- Marcia Lei Zeng and Lois Mai Chan, "Ensuring interoperability among subject vocabularies and knowledge Organisation schemes: a methodological anaysis". The study analyzed methods used in recent projects aiming at improving interoperability

The Open Session was attended by around 120 persons and the papers were available in most of the official languages on IFLANET. Kunz paper was translated into English at the very last minute and therfore not on the IFLANET, but hard copies were distributed at the Open Session.

Workshop

A joint workshop was held in Edinburgh with Cataloguing Workshop (with the CILIP Cataloguing and Indexing Group) on Thursday 22nd August entitled Interoperability: exchange of information between libraries, museums and archives.
- Iain Young, "Da Chanan / Two languages: creating bi-lingual name authories"
- Gerhard J.A. Riesthuis, "Teaching of information storage and retrieval at the Department for Information Science of the University of Amsterdam"
- Gordon Dunsire, "Joined up indexes: interoperability issues in Z39.50 networks"
- Patricia Whatley, "Classifying the drawn evidence: cross domain issues"
- Gerald Maier, "Common Internet portal for libraries, archives and museums (BAM-Portal)".

The workshop was attended by around 40 persons. The papers were translated into most of the official languages and available on IFLANET, except Whatleys paper that was not published.

Relationships with other Bodies

The Section continues to cooperate with other IFLA Sections and Divisions and with the Permanent UNIMARC Committee in various projects and activities.

Ia McIlwaine attended the 2002 meetings of the Professional Board, in her capacity as Chair of the Division of Bibliographic Control. She is also Vice Chair and Financial Officer of the Professional Committee at that meeting.

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Pia Leth, Chair
6th November 2002

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3.   Report on Standing Committee meetings, Glasgow 2002

IFLA Standing Committee on Classification and Indexing
REPORT ON GLASGOW COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Section Standing Committee met at the beginning and end of the conference, as is the current custom. Eleven of the current nineteen committee members were present at the conference.
It is worth reminding members that this is an election year, and those due for re-election should make sure that they are nominated. It would also be useful to consider the election of new members, and to ensure that the committee has its full complement of twenty, rather than the current nineteen. Four members of the committee have served their full eight years and two others are due for re-election.

It was reported that the Proceedings of the Satellite Conference held in Dublin OH, would not be able to be handled by Saur before September, but there was every anticipation that they would be ready for the press by the stipulated date. (They have since been despatched). The conference had made a profit of $4078 which had been sent to IFLA Headquarters, hypothecated to the UBCIM programme.
Pia Leth as Financial Officer reported that the Section finances were in good shape, with a balance of 857.38 euro. The meeting generously agreed to donate £20 towards the Division FRANAR Project. A letter of thanks has subsequently been received from the chair of the FRANAR Committee, Glenn Patton, thanking the Division for its financial support.

The Newsletter was a topic of considerable discussion at both meetings of the Committee. It was felt that the reports of national activities in classification and indexing were of particular importance, and it was agreed that they should be published in full in the November issue of the Newsletter and abstracts should be published in the May issue.
A deadline for the receipt of reports was set for the end of October and the end of April. It was agreed that guidelines for the presentation of these reports should be drawn up by Pia Leth, Max Naudi, Marcia Zeng and Martin Kunz.

The customary report from the Co-ordinating Board, Professional Committee and Governing Board meetings, which had all met prior to the committee meeting, was given. It was noted that in Berlin open sessions would be reduced to two hours rather than two and a half and there was a move also to shorten the length of time devoted to committee meetings. Comments on this are needed, and should be sent to Ia McIlwaine by the end of November, so that she can put the Section's views to the Professional Committee at its December meeting.
The attendance at Glasgow was considered excellent, and the "Red thread" theme was considered very successful. Events such as the fun run and the mobile library meet were highlighted, and it was noted that *IFLA Express* would be published in all five IFLA languages for the first time.
The future of the UBCIM Programme was a matter of special concern to the Section. It was proposed that the UNIMARC Programme should be transferred to the National Library of Portugal after December 31st 2002. The Governing Board accepted this offer from Portugal at the meeting held after the close of the conference.

A proposal had also been received from the Deutsche Bibliothek to launch a new Core Activity to embrace the remainder of the UBC activity together with elements from the now defunct UDT Core Activity. This proposal was received with thanks by the Governing Board, but a request was made to the Deutsche Bibliothek for clarification on a number of points and it will be reconsidered by the Professional Committee when it meets in December.

The offer from the National Library of Portugal to take over ICBC was received gratefully by the Governing Board.

Reports were received on the progress of the Section's two Working Groups on Multilingual thesauri and on Subject Access to World Wide Web resources and Digital Libraries. As reports on these two Working Groups appear elsewhere in this newsletter, they are not repeated here, except to appeal for greater participation in the second Working Group. There is a sad lack of contributions from many areas, including several countries with representation on the Group.

The Section's and the Division's programmes were noted and the local arrangements were outlined by the Glasgow co-ordinator, Gordon Dunsire. A special vote of thanks was paid to those who had assisted in translating conference papers, of which there was a great number, due to the all-day workshop, in addition to the open programme. Katya Zaitseva was particularly thanked for having translated every one into Russian, at a time of the year which was particularly busy for her. The question of paying translators was raised, but the meeting was reminded that the previous Professional Board had specifically ruled out the possibility of even making a gift to translators, which had been the custom of the Section in the past.

The Section's Strategic Plan was examined and updated, removing those items relating to Glasgow and adding plans for Argentina.

Plans for both Berlin and Argentina were discussed.

These include a Division Workshop on Subject Gateways, to be organized by Bodhana Stoklasova (chair of Bibliography) and a half day workshop on the Dewey Decimal Classification to be organized by Joan Mitchell.

The Open Programme would address "Changing roles in Subject access tools", with papers on the MACS Project, FAST and the UDC. This would be organized by Pia Leth and Lois Chan. In the event of not being permitted both workshops, it was agreed that there should be a paper on the Dewey Decimal Classification in the main programme (this will be decided by the Professional Committee in December).

For Argentina, it was decided that a programme on "Adapting and implementing global tools for local use" should be organized, with an open session and a workshop, the first looking at the adaptation of universal tools, and the workshop dealing with the creation of new tools for subject access. It was also agreed that a new Working Group should be established in Berlin to create a "virtual clearinghouse" of subject access tools available online. Members of the committee are asked to bring their ideas to the Berlin committee meetings when this will be discussed further.

The second meeting reviewed the Glasgow conference, which was felt to have been very successful. Both the Division Open Forum and the Section's open session had been well attended, as had the workshop. The overall organization was felt to be good, though there was some criticism of the size of the rooms for committee meetings, and it was inconvenient to have no table for those who had to take notes. It was also thought that the podium in the room used for the Division open forum was too large for comfortable presentations.

It was agreed to propose the papers by Lois Chan and Marcia Zeng, Gordon Dunsire and Patricia Whatley as the three requested for consideration for the *IFLA journal*. Once the choice had been made, the residue would be offered for publication in *ICBC*.

The committee agreed to the request from the Latin America and the Caribbean Section to make Damasa Reyes of Cuba a corresponding member.

I.C. McIlwaine, Secretary
20th October 2002

4.   Section's Working Groups, Progress Reports 2001-2002

4.1   Working Group on Subject Access to Web resources

Subject Access Approaches used by Digital Collections and Information Directories
REPORT ON CURRENT PROGRESS

The Working Group on Subject Access was proposed at the IFLA Thailand Conference in 1999 and met in 2001. It consists of 11 members from the Classification and Indexing Section and Bibliography Section.
The purpose of the WG is to monitor trends in the provision of subject access to electronic documents on the Web, and to establish a database about subject access approaches used by digital collections and web-based information directories and portals.

During the past year, members of the WG contributed to the database through a web-based form that was set up by Marcia Zeng for this project. They have covered various countries such as: Czechia (by Marie Balikova and Bohdana Stoklasova), France and Canada-French site (by Max Naudi), The Nethelands (by Johan Stapel), Sweden, Denmark, and Norway (by Pia Leth), USA and International (by Lois Mai Chan) China, USA, Australia, Finland, Germany, Malaysia, and UK (by Marcia Lei Zeng).
As of July 2002, the WG had collected data from 14 countries, 7 languages, with a total of 50 resources. The prelimilary collection of the data covers the following countries, but the number of the resources visited does not indicate the number of resources available in that country. Primary languages of the sources include English (34), Swedish (5), Czech (3), Chinese (3), French (3), Danish (1), and Norwegian(1)

Known classification schemes used by the resources investigated include *Dewey Decimal Classification* (DDC), *Universal Decimal Classification* (UDC), *SAB Classification* (*Klassifikationssytem for Svenska bibliotek*) (Sweden), *MOS Class* (Denmark), *ACM Computing Classification System*, *Chinese Library Classification*, *Nederlandse Basisclassificatie*, *Open Directory Project Categories*, Yahoo categories, and LookSmart Directory categories.
Subject vocabularies used include *MeSH*, *F-MeSH*, *SAO* (*Svenska ämnesord*), Thesauri from Swedish EnviroNet, *Czech National Subject Authority*, *GEM Controlled Subject Vocabulary*, *AVEL Thesaurus*, *Geo-Guide Subject Catalog*, and *Science Standard Hierarchies*.

We also looked at the overall structures of the subject access provided by these visited resources. Excluding those popular schemes, among the 40 folk categories or hierarchies, 16 have a hierarchical structure with 3 levels or more levels; 24 have organized their sources with several very broad groups (1-2 levels only).

More than 2/3 of the resource sites have search functions. Less than ½ have site maps or site indexes. No one has a visualized site map. Most of the sites provide both search and browse options.

The next step of the WG is to try to cover more countries and more languages. We sincerely hope to have the help from IFLA members who would volunteer to contribute one to three items of his/her respective language or country. Please Email to Marcia Zeng (mzeng@kent.edu) for the description of how you could join this project.

The web-based form is at http://circe.slis.kent.edu/mzeng/webdl.htm, if you would like to take a look at it before you make your decision.

We would like to double the size of the current database and triple the number of countries and languages to be covered by the database by next IFLA conference in 2003.

Marcia Lei Zeng, Chair of the WG

4.2   Working Group on Multilingual Thesauri

Guidelines for Multilingual Thesauri
REPORT ON CURRENT PROGRESS

Members: Lois Mai Chan (USA), Ia McIlwaine (United Kingdom), Martin Kunz (Germany) Dorothy McGarry (USA), Max Naudi (France), Gerhard J.A. Riesthuis (Netherlands) (Chair) Julio Vaz Rodrigues (Portugal), Marcia Lei Zeng (USA)

The Working Group met once during the 68th IFLA Congress in Glasgow.
On 18–19 October 2002 the Working Group came together at the University of Amsterdam.

The WG discussed the range of the Guidelines. The outcome of this discussion was that the guidelines would deal with building multilingual thesauri from scratch or by merging of existing thesauri and with linking of existing thesauri. With linking the result is not a new (multilingual) thesaurus, but the possibility to use one of the linked thesauri to search in databases indexed with any of the linked thesauri.

Another important result of the considerations is that both thesauri with the same structure of relations between the descriptors for all relevant languages and thesauri with a different structure of relations are considered.

The result of the meetings is a detailed outline of the guidelines with many examples, based on the existing guidelines and on a draft for (monolingual) guidelines for information languages, result of discussions in a British group directed by Stella Dexter Clarke. A draft of the guidelines is under discussion within the Working Group. A final draft should be ready in the beginning of 2003.

Gerhard J.A. Riesthuis, Chair of the WG

5. International Developments in Classification and Indexing, 2001-2002

NATIONAL REPORTS FROM...

5.1   CZECHIA - Subject Indexing and classification in Czechia 2001-2002

The main goal of the National Library of the Czech Republic (CNL) in the area of subject indexing and classification has been in accordance with the Strategic plan 2002-2003 of the Section of Classification and Indexing (goal 3) "to develop and review needed standards and guidelines related to subject access".

A format switch

The Czech Cataloguing Policy Board has recommended to switch to MARC 21 finding eg.:

- MARC 21 as the most widely used international format for bibliographic, authority etc. records
- harmonization of UNIMARC-MARC21 format as difficult, time and financial sources consuming
- low level of implementation of the UNIMARC format in Czech library systems
- missing source of foreign records catalogued with AACR2 and UNIMARC.

Czech cataloguing policy will be prepared to support this format in autumn 2003 and both the formats will coexist in the nearest future.

Subject Indexing

Subject authority file

The project of creating Subject authority file as an indexing and retrieval tool, in which verbal terms of a controlled vocabulary (Subject Headings) are combined with equivalent UDC notations, started in May 2001. The mapping between verbal terms and UDC notations is being done intellectually.

There are three constituent parts defined in Subject authority file:

- subject authority file of thematic terms: there are about 17 500 thematic terms with relationship established between them within this file
- subject authority file of geographic names: there are about 4 800 geographic terms with relationship established between them within this file
- subject authority file of genre, form terms (to be published).

Subject headings

During this period, two most important topics were discussed

- application syntax of controlled terms
- application of pre-coordination and post-coordination procedure

It was stressed that

- single-concept terms are easy to assign and maintain; they support mapping between terms and ensure semantic interoperability

- pre-coordinated subject headings strings provide context to the terms and express syntactic relationship between them.

It was decided

- to simplify application syntax entering most of the thematic subdivisions as an additional main entry
- to enter geographic names of localities as an additional main entry
- to place the former form/genre subdivisions in special field.

Classification

The most important events in the area of classification were following:

Czech version of UDC classification scheme on the basis of UDC Consortium Master Reference File was published on Internet – see http://aip.nkp.cz/mdt/
It contains translation of revised UDC notations of Class 2: Theology and Religion (revised UDC notations were implemented in subject authority file as well).

Abbreviated version of UDC classification scheme was published – see:
http://www.nkp.cz/standard/schv.htm

Conspectus method was applied for Collection Development:
- Czech interpretation of the scheme and general principles of application were defined.
- Classification marks of this scheme are being entered in bibliographic records.

Marie Balikova
National Library of the Czech Republic

5.2 ESTONIA - Classification and Subject indexing in Estonia: New developments in 2000-2001

We celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Working Group on Classification and Subject Indexing of the Estonian Librarians' Association on June 29th, 2002.
The period of the independent Estonian Republic has caused essential alterations in all spheres of social life and culture, including librarianship. Our main tools in the field of classification and subject indexing, the Estonian edition of the UDC and the Estonian Universal Subject Headings List, have been composed and published in this period. It has been a serious work for our enthusiastic but not numerous community of librarians.

Classification

In the field of classification our activities have been directed to the methodical problems of the UDC as previously. We have discussed classification problems on our meetings in the Estonian Academic Library and also during the visits of the WG into libraries, f. i. Estonian Public Service Academy Library and Tallinn Central Library.

In September an overview was given about the IFLA conference in Boston by M. Aasmets. The Estonian translation of the common auxiliaries of properties, the tables –02 had been completed and delivered to the libraries.

In February the new volume of "Extensions" (N 23, 2001) was under discussion in the WG. The structure of the new class 005 Management and corrections to the UDC were introduced by A. Kirsel and M. Aasmets. It was decided to delay the using of 005 until the annulment of 65.01 appears in the "Extensions" (2002).

The results of the questionnaire about the problems of using the Estonian UDC tables were reported at the WG meeting in December. The list of subjects and terms not found in the UDC was discussed twice (in December and February). A letter with attachment about the problems and the proposals of the Estonian UDC user libraries has been sent to the Editor-in-Chief, prof. I. McIlwaine in May.

Subject Indexing

The problems of subject indexing were under discussion in the WG several times. In March a full-day seminar was organized by S. Nilbe in the National Library. About 70 librarians took part in it. An overview about the work in the field of subject indexing of the IFLA Section on Classification and Subject Indexing in the period 1997-2001 was given by M. Aasmets. Problems of subject indexing principles in the Estonian union electronical catalogue ESTER, subject indexing of fiction and problems of using form divisions were thoroughly analysed by S. Nilbe.

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Marje Aasmets
Estonian Academic Library

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5.3   FRANCE - Indexing and Classification in France, 2001-2002

Subject Indexing

Authority list on the Web

Since the beginning of May 2002, RAMEAU is free available on our Web site at: http://rameau.bnf.fr

This new service, with many searching possibilities (browsing, words, search equation) in all kinds and fields of authority records (headings, subdivisions, LCSH equivalents, domains, etc.), offers in three different formats the complete national RAMEAU list as stated at end of February (approximately 230,000 records). This is a specific web access to the authority list and not an acces to authority records through the subject catalogue.

Another interface, accessible from the BnF Web site (http://www.bnf.fr), allows to search also all the BnF authority files (personal names, corporate names, uniform titles).

This initial version will be revised at the end of 2002, and regularly updated (by-monthly) next year, once the new information system of the National library, implemented in February 2002, will be fully operational.

RAMEAU network Web site

The site devoted to the network of the users of the common indexing language, regularly updated, is growing up in the same way with the development of new tools:

- Online File of proposals: a new version, more effective, has been implemented; more than 2,500 new headings have been proposed by RAMEAU users since June 2000.

- Vocational training: online training courses to RAMEAU are available since last December, with teaching materials and tutorials.

This Web site will be completely re-organized and re-designed at the end of 2002.

Ongoing developments

A new edition (6th) of the "Guide d'indexation" (Indexing Manual) is planned for Summer 2003. It will propose a reviewed and more complete theoretical part, and will provide an important simplification of subject indexing for Literature and Music. This reform follows the evolution already made for Art field in the beginning of 2000, for a better consistency and an easier use of the SH language.

Connected to the Renardus project, the subject indexing of subject gateway "Les Signets de la BnF" has been developed. The results of this use of the common indexing language RAMEAU for searching Web resources, will be available next year, once "Les Signets" will be loaded into a new database.

With new specifications and a revised organizational model, the operational MACS (Multilingual Access to Subjects) system is under development on the basis of the prototype, always available at: http://infolab.kub.nl/prj/macs.
Loadings and complementary works will take place at the end of this year, involving also the participation of the RAMEAU network, and MACS should comprise more than 30,000 multilingual headings at the beginning of 2003.

Classification

Our cooperation in the revision process of DDC Class 340 (Law) initiated by the Dewey Editorial Policy Committee, has been postponed since our last Boston meeting for staff reasons in our national working group. But it is of course a long-term work, and it will be continued as soon as possible on the basis of our first general proposal of June 2001.

The French national bibliography, maintained by the National library, is indexed with Dewey Decimal Classification since two years. Numbers provided in these bibliographic records are translated into words, according to DDC 21st in French. Gathered into a particular file, they represent a kind of rudimentary Dewey authority file, used only inside the Bibliothèque nationale de France.

The classification of our RAMEAU subject headings in about sixty domains (broad subject fields) has been continued in order to propose thematic views of RAMEAU for thematic searching in catalogues. About 50,000 subject headings have already been classified in this way.

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Max Naudi
Bibliothèque nationale de France

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5.4   GERMANY - Subject Indexing and Classification in Germany 2001-2002

Subject Indexing

The german subject authority file (Schlagwortnormdatei – SWD) is a permanently increasing documentation language. At the end of the year 2001 the SWD held more than 550 000 headings. Including all references this will offer to users a research vocabulary with more than a million access terms.

The SWD is not only used by libraries, it is also a successful indexing and documentation tool for museal objects, archive materials or for the needs of information management. In the recent year a new cooperation began between Die Deutsche Bibliothek and museums and archives from Baden-Wuerttemberg. This startet first in a test phase to find out what kind of special terminlogical purposes museums or archives would have. It was not unexpected that only a few new descriptors were necessary for the description of museal objects. After more than 15 years of development the vocabulary of the SWD has such an extension and specialization that even very special needs can be satisfied.

Therefore it was a logical step to look for new and better services or the users and it was cause of this idea that the MACS-project (see the french report) was tackled.

Classification

Subject cataloging for all kinds of German and international publications through the most important bibliographic data bases is not yet realized in the German speaking countries. As a classification mostly used around the world DDC offers the unique opportunity to improve this situation. DDC notations in the Deutsche Nationalbibliographie and in meta-data for lectronic publications are a basic requirement as recommended in expertises and public statements of different library institutions. A German edition of DDC in printed and electronic form is needed as an instrument wich offers the necessary German verbal access to DDC for users of OPACs and internet. Classifiers and users of DDC around the world expect a better integration of German and European topics in class entries and notes as well as in the relative index of DDC.

As an instrument for classifying with DDC and for number-building an electronic authority file DDC German will be created for the application in Die Deutsche Bibliothek (for classifying titles in the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek) and in library networks of the German-speaking countries.

Martin Kunz
Die Deutsche Bibliothek

5.5   ICELAND - Classification and Subject Indexing in Iceland

Classification

In the year 1900 the *Dewey Decimal Classification System* (DDC) was introduced in the National Library in Iceland. It is the main classification scheme in the country and used by most libraries. The city library in Reykjavik uses the Danish variant of the classification scheme because the first city librarian studied in Denmark and brought back the Danish

edition of the DDC. In the year 1955 short guidelines about classification and cataloguing was published by the public libraries director in Iceland.

The abridged editions of the DDC have been published twice in the country (1970 and 1987) and now a new abridged edition is in preparation by the 13th abridged DDC edition from 1997 and will probably be published at the end of the year 2002 by the National and University Library in Reykjavik. The Icelandic library community has been waiting for this edition for years. In Iceland full use is made of the local emphasis options of the DDC, e.g. in language (Icelandic 410), literature (Icelandic literature 810) and geographical treatment. The area code for Iceland is -491 (instead of -4912 in the international DDC).

For medical literature the *National Library of Medicine Classification* is used by the Library and Information center of the University Hospital. The Universal Decimal Classification (UDC) is used by one research library in the country.

Subject Indexing

In the traditional card catalogues subject indexing was very little used in Icelandic libraries. The foreign medical literature was assigned subject headings according to *Medical Subject Headings* (MeSH) but no authority files were on hand in Icelandic. With the automation of library catalogues after 1990 new dimensions opened up for subject indexing and the need for authority files grew immensely.

The first Icelandic thesaurus, *Kerfisbundinn efnisordalykill* (KE), an initiative brought about by two librarians in their spare time, was published in 1992 and mainly used by the public libraries, school libraries and the junior college libraries. The 3rd edition of the thesaurus was published in 2001 and is now used by most libraries in the country.

The KE is a general thesaurus in Icelandic. It contains ca. 6.700 preferred terms and ca.3.700 non-preferred terms.

The thesaurus is built up according to the Icelandic equivalent of ISO 2788/1986 and has a user guidance section, an alphabetic section with ca. 10.400 entries and a hierarchical section with 114 entries, which contains all preferred terms. The alphabetical section is constructed as a standard thesaurus with use for references, scope notes, broader terms, narrower terms and related terms. The KE thesaurus is still the only thesaurus, which is available in the country.

In small communities like Iceland co-operation is very important, not at least in the field of subject analysis, information service and the dissemination of information, where it is vital to join forces among libraries and information centers. In this regard two Icelandic nationwide co-operational projects can be mentioned, that will have strong impact on the library and information scenario in Iceland in the future, i.e. the consortium of Icelandic libraries (www.landskerfi.is) and the access to electronic journals and databases on national basis (www.hvar.is), which will not be discussed further in this context.

The Icelandic government and a series of municipalities around the country own the *Icelandic Library Consortium Inc.* It was incorporated on November 14th, 2001.

The aim with establishing a consortium of Icelandic libraries together with an implementation of a new common library automation system is that all libraries and information centers in Iceland are to be served by a common and centrally operated system (www.landskerfi.is).

The realization of a single nationwide library system requires an immense amount of organizational effort, co-operation and understanding among the different types of libraries. In the selection process focal groups tested the various models of the systems in question.

The library system Aleph was selected and is now under implementation. One database will serve as a union catalogue for the whole country. It will definitely make the library collections easier accessible for the end users, especially for users living outside of the capital area. This requires a great deal of cooperation and harmonization on behalf of the libraries.

It is planned to enlarge and expand the existing thesaurus and to develop special thesauri as off-shots from the general one and further to harmonize and standardize the subject indexing among the Icelandic libraries and to develop a general policy in indexing for Icelandic libraries and information centers.

<div align="right">

Thordis T. Thorarinsdottir
Menntaskolinn vid Sund Junior College Library, Reykjavík

</div>

5.6   ITALY - Subject indexing and Classification in Italy, 2001-2002

In the last months the interest of the Italian **Library Association (AIB)** in classification and indexing was confirmed by the **publication of three handbooks** on the subject.

The first one, *Dewey da 20 a 21*, (Dewey from 20 to 21) originated from a seminar held in Rome by the AIB in November 2000 to present the Italian translation of DDC 21 and is devoted to illustrate the major differences existing between the two editions of the classification.

Classificazione decimale Dewey Edizione aggiornata a DDC21, (Decimal Dewey Classification. Edition updated to DDC21) by Luigi Crocetti and Albarosa Fagiolini, both involved in the Italian translation of DDC 21, is a short but useful introduction to the principles of the DDC.

The third volume, *Soggettazione*, (Subject Indexing), by Albarosa Fagiolini, who works for the Italian bibliographic agency, is part of the same series as the foregoing volume and has the same characteristics, but is devoted to subject indexing.

On the subject AIB held a **national seminar in Rome** last January. The goal of the seminar, which lasted three days and was attended by librarians coming from all over Italy, was to spread subject indexing method developed by AIB GRIS (Italian Library Association Research Group on Subject Indexing).

The AIB also demonstrated its strong interest in the matter dedicating to subject indexing a **session in the Annual AIB Congress**, that took place in Rome October 2001. The session was organised by GRIS and illustrated the situation of subject indexing in Italy, introducing indexing experiences in special libraries (architecture university libraries; children education, law and protection state libraries); experiences in subject indexing education and application in university libraries; indexing on line resources. The session was closed by the Italian member of the IFLA Standing Committee on Classification and Indexing with a report on the work of the SC.

The renewed interest in subject indexing originated from the **feasibility study on the revision of its *Soggettario*** (Subject Heading List) entrusted by the Florence National Central Library to a working group comprised of members coming from the GRIS, except for one.

The study ended in May 2002 and it was presented during a seminar that took place in Florence on June the 13th (http://www.bncf.firenze.sbn.it/notizie/index.html)

The study was articulated in eight phases, which are represented by eight documents collected in a volume. The documents are the following:
Theoretical and Methodological Frame (October 2000); *Analysis of Indexing Systems (December 2000)*; *Soggettario Analysis (January 2001)*; *Proposals (April 2001)*; *Intermediate Report (October 2001); Recommendations for Rules Formulation (February 2002)*; *Experimentation Report (April 2002)*; *Executive Project (May 2002).*

LCSH, SIPORbase, RAMEAU, RSWK, MACS, AAT, UNESCO Thesaurus, Root Thesaurus, TRT (Thesaurus Regionale Toscano), PRECIS, GRIS are systems, thesauri and rules analyzed.

The proposals cover the following aspects:
1. language specificity; 2. basic units of the language: terms and strings, 3. control of syntactic relationships, 4. citation order; 5. morphological control, 6. control of semantic relationships, 7. vocabulary entry structure.

The indexing language proposed is based on few fundamental principles:
the language should be based on rules; it should be well structured, synthetic, co-extensive; the vocabulary should be based on the "three-relationships model" and on the morphological criteria settled by international standards; the syntax should be based on the analysis of roles and should follow a well defined citation order.

The ***Intermediate Report* outlines the structure of the new *Soggettario***, which will consist of
a)   the rules (explicit, organic, easy to be taught and to be learned),
b)   the vocabulary (a controlled and structured list of terms, enriched by instructions to use and to manage them),
c)   the syntactical equipment for the application (the voices of the handbook and the instructions that come with the vocabulary terms),
d)   the archive of subject strings (not an inventory but a rich and authoritative collection of examples).

The executive project also gives indications for the basic requirements of the cataloguing software.

The new *Soggettario* could and should be implemented in a cooperative way, in which the National Library of Florence and its national bibliography department would maintain the control over the correctness and the consistency of the work.

<div align="right">
Leda Bultrini
Agenzia regionale protezione ambientale – Lazio, Rieti
</div>

5.7   PORTUGAL - Subject Indexing and Classification in Portugal, 2001-2002

Last year in Portugal there haven't been many developments regarding classification and indexing. However, some aspects must be pointed out:

•   In what concerns the **CLIP Project** - which involves special libraries and the National Library with the aim of improving and harmonising the languages in use by the libraries for each subject area – we have to highlight the conclusion of the **Controlled Vocabulary for Architecture**, to be published until the end of this year.

•   About the vocacional **training courses** in classification and indexing that took place last year, it is important to refer that The National Library held one week courses on *UDC - Universal Decimal Classification* and on *SIPORBASE - Indexing System in Portuguese.* Organized by the Professional Association (BAD), we have to mention the following training courses: *Subject Indexing; Classification for School Libraries and Resource Centers*; *Visual Information Indexing*; *Information Storage and Retrieval in a WEB environment.*

•   The **Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation Art Library** began controlling its **Authority File**. Authorithy records were completed for portuguese contemporary artists and the same work is being done for portuguese museums and galleries. A Working Group of art librarians was created with the aim of harmonising the existing subject headings.

•   Finally and concerning normalization, it seams important to refer the translation of the ISO Standard 5127 (Information and Documentation – Vocabulary) , wich will be an important supporting tool for controlled vocabulary in this field.

<div align="right">

Júlio Vaz
Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon

</div>

5.8   ROMANIA - Classification and Subject Indexing in Romania, 2001-2002

Classification

UDC is the only classification system used in Romania today. In this respect, the main achievement in the field was that at the end of 2001 all Romanian libraries (academic and public as well) passed to the use of the same UDC version, namely **the first UDC International Medium Edition in Romanian, Part I: Systematic tables** (relying on the Master Reference File and published by the National Library of Romania between 1997 and 1998).

This achievement was preceded and prepared by conferences, workshops and articles, informing all types of librarians and libraries about the new numbers (especially class 004 and the new version of class 8), analysing and offering uniform classification solutions.

Through the joint effort of the National Library of Romania and of the Central University Library of Bucharest, the translation of **Part II: Alphabetical subject index** of the UDC International Medium Edition in Romanian is going on and it is espected to be finished

very soon. In this way the Romanian libraries will benefit, finally, by the **complete** UDC International Medium Edition in Romanian.

Subject indexing

Before 1996 subject indexing was very little used in Romania. In 1996, on the initiative and coordination of the Central University Library of Bucharest and ABIR (The Romanian Academic Libraries Association), the university libraries began the creation of a **Romanian Thesaurus**, based on UDC.

At the end of 2001 **two new microthesauri were published:** Classes 634/635: Horticulture and Classes 793/799: Physical activity. They completed the five already existing microthesauri (Class o2: Librarianship; Class 1: Philosophy; Class 2: Religion. Theology; Classes 57/591: Biology. Botany. Zoology and Class 8: Linguistics. Literature).

The National Cataloguing-Indexing Commission of ANBPR (The Romanian National Public Libraries Association) decided (at the meeting held in October 2001) to create, as soon as possible, through the common effort of the National Library of Romania and the county public libraries, a **Romanian Encyclopaedic Subject Headings List**, less related to UDC and needed very much by the specific users of the public libraries. As a possible model, **RAMEAU** was suggested (taking into account the similarities between French and Romanian).

In order to make a decision, the members of the Commission studied the "Présentation générale de RAMEAU" (parts of the "Guide d'indexation") and especially the authority list, available on Web, and were very satisfied with both RAMEAU tools.

At the meeting held in Bucharest, on 20-23 May 2002, the National Cataloguing-Indexing Commission decided that RAMEAU, due to its quality, meets the indexing needs of the Romanian libraries and so, a **cooperation between France and Romania in the field of subject indexing** was proposed. Namely, it was decided to kindly ask from the RAMEAU partners (through the Bibliothèque nationale de France) the following:
- the right to translate RAMEAU "Liste d'autorité – édition imprimée – 2002" and the "Guide d'indexation";
- the right to adapt the autority list in order to suit the Romanian needs;
- a professional help in creating a Romanian subject indexing system.

The Romanian Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs decided to support the creation of the Romanian indexing system and already started (through the BnF) the cooperation procedures with RAMEAU partners.

At the next meeting (autumn 2002), depending on the cooperation approach with RAMEAU partners, the Commission will decide the next steps of the project.

<div align="right">

Adriana Király
Biblioteca Judeteana "Octavian Goga" Cluj, Cluj-Napoca

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5.9 RUSSIA - Classification and Indexing in Russia, 2001-2002

The period under review is characterized by some advances in the sphere of classification and indexing in Russia.

BBK (Russian Library Bibliographic Classification)

The Medium BBK edition (8 volumes) is being prepared for publication (editor-in-chief – Eduard Sukiasyan). The first volume of this edition was published in winter 2002.

Universal Decimal Classification

VINITI as a member of the UDC Consortium is engaged in preparing the new printed full Russian UDC edition (editor-in-chief – Yuri Arskiy) on the basis of UDC Consortium Master Reference File. Class 0 and Auxiliary tables were published in 2001 and Classes 1-3 were published in summer 2002. The Russian abridged UDC edition appeared in 2001.According to the license agreement with VINITI, Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology has prepared and distributes the Russian Electronic UDC on CD-ROM. Electronic UDC is a CDS/ISIS database in special browsing and retrieval interface. It provides browsing the main and auxiliary tables, search by keywords and UDC numbers and an option of building UDC numbers. In 2001 the Ministry of Publishing of Russian Federation organized a special Working Group for developing Working UDC tables for book business (chair – Ekaterina Zaitseva). The Working Group consisted of representatives of VINITI, Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology, Russian Book Chamber and leading book publishing and book selling companies. Working UDC tables for book business were prepared in December 2001 and were sent to libraries, book publishing and book selling companies for receiving comments. They were also discussed at the Round Table in the framework of LIBCOM-2001 Conference (Zvenigorod, Moscow Region) in November 2001 and at the special workshop in the framework of V Russian National Book Fair (Moscow). The edition will be published in 2002. It is the abridged UDC version including up-to-date terminology and comments.

Dewey Decimal Classification

In May 2001 Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology finalized the publication of the first Russian DDC edition (editor-in-chief – Ekaterina Zaitseva) based on the original DDC 21 according to the agreement with OCLC. In 2001-2002 Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology was engaged in distributing this edition and consulting the organizations, which purchased the edition, in implementing DDC.
The creation of the Electronic Russian Dewey is under discussion now.

State Classification for Scientific and Technical Information

In 2001 VINITI published the new edition of State Classification for Scientific and Technical Information (editor-in-chief – Yuri Arskiy) containing the corresponding UDC numbers and specialty codes. Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology maintains the database of State Classification for Scientific and Technical Information and distributes it on CD-ROM.

Subject indexing

The project of creating National Subject Authority Files is currently in progress. Russian National Library is responsible for this work. The following categories of authority files are developed: personal names, corporate body names, geographical names, uniform titles and subject headings. The present extent of Authority Files is over 1 million records.

<div align="right">

Ekaterina Zaitseva
Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology

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5.10 SPAIN - Indexing and Classification in Spain, 2001-2002

In Spain, the period 2001-2002 is not a period of many novelties related to classification and indexing. It's been a period of consolidation of the tools that had been developed during the past years. Nevertheless, we have to mention the following points:

- The National Authority File (including subject headings) continues to grow and is edited on CD-ROM format by the *Biblioteca Nacional de España* (Spanish National Library). At the end of 2001 a new interface was developed for the access to information about authorities at the Web site of the National Library.
The number of new subject entries included in the NAF increased a 15% with respect to the last annual edition. This useful tool is available in the Web site of the Spanish National Library (adress: http://www.bne.es/esp/cat-fra.htm). The access to information in the online version is only partial, because the users can only browse the authority headings and they don´t have access to the complete information related to each authority entry, such as variant and related headings, and scope notes. The Nartional Library is developing a new interface that will allow to show the entire authority record.

- The publishing of printed handbooks devoted to indexing and classification techniques has continued in Spain during 2000-2001. The most remarkable work in this aspect is the handbook *El catálogo de autoridades: creación y gestión en unidades documentales* (The authority file: creation and management in documentary units) written by Jesús Jiménez Pelayo, member of this Standing Committee, and Rosa García Blanco, member of the Acquisition and Collection Development Standing Committee. This book is being a very useful tool to Spanish speaker librarians and includes a foreword and a little but relevant contribution by Barbara Tillett.

- This has not been a very good period for courses. Just only to mention one, titled *Document analysis, indexing and abstracting for specialised databases* organised by the *Centro Nacional de Información y Documentación Científica* (Spanish Center for Scientific Information and Documentation (CINDOC)).

- The "IBERMARC Format for Authority Records" and the new edition of the UDC, both published in 2000, are being implemented correctly at libraries without any remarkable problem.

- Finally, we have to mention an important event that will be held in Granada this year (2002) in July 10-13. This is the 7th Meeting of the International Society for Knowledge Organisation, to which several members of this Committee will attend. There will be also a very important Spanish representation in this meeting.

Jesús Jiménez Pelayo
Andalusian Library, Granada

5.11 SWEDEN - Subject Indexing and Classification in Sweden 2001-2002

Indexing

This year the subject heading system, Svenska ämnesord http://www.amnesord.kb.se, has taken a great leap forward. After two sessions of training and open seminars with Lois Mai Chan, and study visits both to RAMEAU in France and KABA in Poland, we have now established the Swedish subject heading system as a national system. It is the first time we have a general system for subject indexing in Sweden.

One of the first to apply it was the Swedish National Bibliography online (not the hard copy version). The guidelines for the subject heading system were finished earlier this year (though we still have some areas to develop). They are freely available on the web. The guidelines are based on IFLA's international principles but we have tried to make simplifications whenever we have found it possible compared to LCSH and RAMEAU. We have nevertheless accepted the pre-coordination principle.

We have had training courses for 12 libraries and nearly 200 persons since early Spring. There has been some criticism against the introduction of the system, but the general concensus has on the whole been positive. In Sweden neither classification nor indexing has been thought of as very important and pursuing efforts in both areas has at times been considered exaggerated. To our defense we have stated that using guidelines makes it easier to cooperate and faciliate consistency in the catalogues. The mapping of the Swedish subject headings to LCSH is done approving new subject headings. But many older terms have yet to be mapped. Our challenge now is to maintain the high level of quality and expediency necessary for making this system attractive to more libraries and other users.

Classification

Due to a new organization structure of the Swedish Library Association, the Swedish classification system (SAB) is reorganized and will start up again after more than a years inactivity.

The new committee is called Svensk biblioteksförenings kommitté för Klassifikationssystem för svenska bibliotek (SAB-systemet) and the first meeting is to be held in September.

Pia Leth
Royal Library, National Library of Sweden

5.12 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - Subject indexing and Classification in the United States

Subject Indexing

Library of Congress Subject Headings **(LCSH)***

LCSH continues to be issued annually. The 25th edition (2002) of *LCSH* became available in the spring. It contains approximately 263,000 headings established or revised through mid-November 2001, including the major change from "Handicapped" and "Physically handicapped" to **People with disabilities**.

This edition employs smooth, thin white paper, in contrast to the newspaper-type paper used in the two previous editions. As a result, the five volumes are two full inches thinner and lighter than last year's edition even though they contain more pages.

Thesaurus for Graphic Materials **Updated***

After a year-long software upgrade process, new terms are again being added to both the *Thesaurus for Graphic Materials: Subject Terms (TGM I)* and *Genre and Physical Characteristics (TGM II)*. Efforts continue to provide more stable access via the Web. A full list of terms added since July 2001 is available via the *TGM* home pages: TGM I <**http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/print/tgm1/**> and TGM II <**http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/tgm2/**>.

Faceted Application of Subject Terminology **(FAST)**

FAST, a vocabulary based on LCSH terminology with a simplified application syntax, continues to be developed by OCLC. The established facets are topic, place, time, and form. Establishment of headings for topic, time, and form has been completed. OCLC will begin creating authority records for each heading. Geographic headings are being validated.

The next step will be the creation of authority records for other types of proper names (persons, families, corporate bodies, and meetings) and uniform titles used as subjects.

Sears List of Subject Headings

The 18th edition of the Sears List has been reschedules from June 2003 to January 2004 to coincide with the publication of the 14th Abridged edition of the Dewey Decimal Classification.

The 6th edition of *Sears List of Subject Headings, Canadian Companion*, Revised by Lynne Lighthall, was published in 2001.

Medical Subject Headings **(MeSH)** (http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/general2002.html)

The 2002 edition of MeSH contains the following features:

- 848 descriptors added representing concepts with no directly corresponding descriptors in 2001 MeSH (i.e., new concepts and records);
- 185 descriptors replaced with more up-to-date terminology;
- 47 descriptors deleted;
- 2041 *see* references (print entry terms) added.

The Unified Medical Language System® (UMLS®) Project (http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/umlsmeta.html)

Annual editions of the Metathesaurus have been distributed since 1990. This spring, the National Library of Medicine moved to quarterly updates. The 2002AA edition was distributed in January 2002 and the 2002AB edition in May 2002. The 2002AB edition includes 871,584 concepts and 2.1 million concept names in over 95 biomedical source vocabularies, some in multiple languages.

Core Subject Taxonomy for Mathematical Sciences Education

The *Core Subject Taxonomy for Mathematical Sciences Education* was recently finalized by the Mathematical Sciences Conference Group on Digital Educational Resources, which includes representatives from various groups with some interest in digital libraries in mathematics. The goal for this effort, which has taken several years to complete, was to create a subject taxonomy for the mathematical sciences to which each participating digital library/collection is able to map their internal subject taxonomy. The full report on the process, guidelines and thoughts that went into arriving at the taxonomy can be found at http://www.uncwil.edu/people/hermanr/MathTax/

Classification

Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC)

A separate report will be presented by Joan Mitchell, Editor of DDC.

Library of Congress Classification (LCC)*

Classification Web.

The Cataloging Distribution Service of the Library of Congress launched *Classification Web* on June 1. *Class Web* is a subscription service providing Web access to all *LC Classification* schedules and the complete *LCSH* in familiar thesaural display.

Class Web is updated weekly and provides powerful search and navigation capabilities for both *LCC* and *LCSH*, automatic calculation of classification table numbers, permanent personal or institutional note files, links to a pre-set list of institutional OPACs, and the ability to link to a local Web OPAC for many major vendor systems in order to correlate class numbers and subject headings assigned to bibliographic records.

Class Web was fine-tuned in response to comments from users during the pilot test period last year, which drew almost 7,000 users from around the world and often more than 400 users daily. Current subscribers to *Classification Plus* will be able to migrate to *Class Web* on a prorated basis at any time during their subscription period. CDS plans to discontinue *Class Plus* at the end of 2002.

Cataloger's Desktop will continue to be available as a CD-ROM product.

As a project in CPSO, tables in *LCC* are being reviewed and repaired where necessary so that they will work seamlessly with the *Class Web* calculator function. Review of Class K tables was completed in the spring; review of Class P tables is currently underway and expected to be completed in the summer.

LCC Weekly Lists.

Weekly lists of additions and changes to the *Library of Congress Classification* schedules are now posted on the CPSO Web site (http://lcweb.loc.gov/catdir/cpso) as they are approved. This information was formerly made available in a quarterly publication entitled *LC Classification: Additions and Changes*, which ceased publication with List 284 covering October - December 2001.
The lists are in the form of PDF files that require Adobe Acrobat Reader. The free reader may be downloaded from the Adobe web site.

Theocratic Law Schedules.

Subclass **KBM** for Jewish law was implemented on a trial basis at LC in May while the final version is being prepared for publication. Subclass **KBP** for Islamic law is currently under review at Harvard and in the Middle East.
Both subclasses may be accessed in *Classification Web*.

After ten years, the conversion of the LCC schedules is finally complete with the publication of the 2001 editions of classes BL-BQ (Religion (General). Hinduism. Judaism. Islam. Buddhism); D-DR (History (General). History of Europe); G (Geography. Maps. Anthropology. Recreation); and KL-KWX (Law of Asia and Eurasia, Africa, Pacific Area and Antarctica). The electronic version is also available through *Classification Web*.

National Library of Medicine Classification (http://wwwcf.nlm.nih.gov/class/)

The latest edition is the 5th edition (1994, revised 1999). It now has an online version featuring hyperlinks:

- from the Index headings to the appropriate classification numbers in the Schedules,
- from any MeSH term in the Index to full descriptor data in the MeSH Browser,
- from cross-references within the Index to the referred term,
- between and among numbers within the text of the Schedules, to the geographic table G, and to other appropriate documentation.

*Source of information: Lynn El-Hoshy, Library of Congress

Lois Mai Chan
University of Kentucky, Lexington (KY)

Marcia Lei Zeng
Kent State University, Kent (OH)

Appendix   Short News from...

A.   CUBA - Short report from Cuba on classification and indexing

Classification

The most commonly used classification system in Cuba is Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC), it is used by the National Library and the public libraries.
Not all libraries use the same editions though. But the most important libraries use the 21th edition in Spanish. UDC is also used but not as widespread as DDC.

Subject indexing

The most used system for indexing is the Lista de encabezamiento de materias edited by the Panamerican Union for Latin America. This is a very useful tool for Spanish speaking librarians.
A problem that is under discussion is that not all libraries use this subject heading system, but other lists.

Damasa Reyes Rolando
Biblioteca Casa de las Americas, Habana

B.   DENMARK - Short news from Denmark

DK5web

3. maj 2002 was opening day for netpunkt.dk. Netpunkt.dk is a a service providing z39.50 acces to DanBib, BookData, Deutsche NatBib og Libris for library professionals.
As an additional service the danish classification system DK5 is published online for the first time.

Bibliotek.dk

In order to improve subject searching for danish litterature without subject headings, a provisional investigation of the possibilities for automatic subject indexing on the basis of classification (DK5) has been carried out.
The investigation showed that automatic indexing will be very difficult to realize, but it points to some possibilities for further investigations.

Danish National Library Authority - Catalogue Data Committee

The Catalogue Data Committee will focus on subject data in library future and organize a conference dealing with subject structures and indexing in webguides and subject gateways, automatic and semiautomatic indexing, and interactive user interface.

Birgit Gøtterup
Dansk Biblioteks Center

C.   NORWAY - New Norwegian, abridged edition of DDC

After three years of hard work the fifth Norwegian, abridged edition of DDC (DDK5) was completed and launched in August .The editor, Isabella Kubosch, and the resource persons involved in the project have created a publication in two volumes and approximately 1500 pages. DDK5 is tailor made to meet the requirements of small and medium sized libraries. University or very specialized libraries tend to use the full, international edition.

The last abridged edition (DDK4) was based on DDC19 and published in 1983. Although the tables have been somewhat upgraded and adjusted over the years there was dire need for a translation based on DDC21.

What makes the Norwegian edition special is the focus on literary warrant in Norwegian libraries. DDK5 is hence an intermediary edition with features from both DDC21 and abridged edition 13. Our main focus has been to develop a true subset of DDC21. In order to keep the level of reclassification to a minimum we have, however, decided to use a few of the options provided for in DDC21.

During the translation project we have maintained a close contact with DDC staff. The editors of DDC have been very helpful and also open for suggestions and proposed changes. One area that we have been able to influence is the division of Nordic/Scandinavian languages and literatures, in fact our suggestions for changes were actually adapted by DDC. This was also partly the case with the division of Nordic history.

The National Library and other key institutions will start using DDK5 in 2003. The next step is to consider developing a Norwegian WebDewey. In order to obtain this goal we will have to consider migrating to DDC22 as soon as possible and continually update the database in accordance with DDC.

Unni Knutsen
National Library of Norway

New contributions to the Newsletter are welcome.
For the next issue, please send comments, articles and news, before end of April
to : max.naudi@bnf.fr

Thank you for contributing!

Visit us on IFLANET at: http://www.ifla.org/VII/s29/sci.htm