Tony **Curwen** reports on the progress of revision as follows. In November 1999, Classes AY (Science and Technology (General)) and Class B (Physics) were published. These classes were considered by the Editor, Jack Mills and his colleagues to be among the most difficult areas to revise. From there the work moved on to Class C (Chemistry). This Class was expected to be sent to the publishers by the autumn of 2000. Class I (Psychology and Psychiatry) is out-of-print and is suggested for revision. A draft schedule of Class LA (Archaeology) has been prepared for use at Cambridge. Other areas to be worked on in the near future include the Earth and Life Sciences. The Technology classes have been awaiting the completion of Physics and Chemistry and there are a number of fundamental questions to be answered as a basis for the development of History and The Arts. The editor also reported that Classes E-G (Biological Sciences) should not be too difficult to complete. Drafts of DA-DG (Astronomy), DH-DZ (Earth Sciences) are already in use at Cambridge and the editor hoped for publication of classes D-G following Class W in late 2000. Progress is being made on Classes U-V (Technology). Ultimately it will be necessary to return to classes published earlier – namely Religion, Psychology and the Health Sciences as they are now becoming out of date.

Classification Research Group

The CRG continues to take an active role in the discussion of classification and in the development of classification systems. The group held its 326th meeting in November 2000 and it continues to focus on the development of *BC2.* Most recently they have been concerned with drafts of Classes U/V (Technology). In its November 2000 meeting the discussion focused on the broader issues of classification Briefly, the Group discussed the background and history of the CRG and considered the "Current status of classification". Among their concerns is the fact that "the IT revolution has revealed a general ignorance of classification principles and has concentrated system development on retrieving words rather than concepts". Also many library and information science schools "now neglect this core element of library professionalism". Thus they see a need to promote classification. Looking to the future, the Group considers the completion of *BC2* must continue to have high priority. Future publication arrangements have been uncertain with changes at Bowker Saur. However, this problem may be solved by the fact that Bowker (*BC2's* previous publisher) has recently sold its book list to K.G. Saur in Munich. At the 326th meeting the Group set out aims and objectives that would focus on future work. As stated the overall objective would be "to develop and promote the practice and principles enabling retrieval by subject from stored information". To achieve the objective specific aims were suggested. These were the completion of the publication of the 25 volumes of *BC2,* the dissemination of information about classification, encouragement of wider adoption of *BC2,* encouragement of

- research and software development to support the application of classification, the
- development of an abridged *BC2* appropriate to school libraries, and promotion of the
- principles for developing a thesaurus from the basis of a classification scheme.

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