

and its use, was discussed briefly and recent revision policy explained. A number of substantial revisions have been carried out over the past five years and currently particular attention has been given to the auxiliary tables as part of a 'tidying up' process. UDC also has a major research project in progress - the revision of Class 61 - Medicine. In outlining future plans, Professor McIlwaine said that "At the present time, UDC is in a better position to move forward than it has been for some years". Various editions are now being issued in a range of formats, including CD-ROM and a CD-ROM version of the Medium Edition will soon be available and proposals are being received for the development of bilingual editions on CD-ROM. There is also the hope that it might be possible to create multilingual MRF database the near future.

A Multilingual Master Reference File would be a logical next step in the development of UDC. However, there are many variations across editions from one language to another. These would have to be reconciled and this would not be an easy task. Nevertheless, the possibility of a multilingual database is being given very serious consideration. Such a database would be a very powerful tool. It would facilitate switching from one language to another using the UDC notation, make the task of editing easier and ensure a more standard usage of class numbers across editions.

The second presentation in the workshop was by Vanda Broughton (United Kingdom), Research Assistant to the Editor of UDC, on "The Revision Process in UDC: An Examination of the Systematic Auxiliary of 'Point-of-View' Using Facet-Analytical Methods". This paper focused on the current approach to the revision of UDC, in which facet analysis is now a major factor. Broughton demonstrated the method, using examples from recent work in the revision of the UDC auxiliary tables. In addressing her topic, the author briefly described the nature of classification revision process, explaining that while UDC has always employed synthetic principles it is only recently that it has begun to take a fully faceted approach to its analysis of subjects. The bulk of her paper focused specifically on facet analysis as it applies to the auxiliary tables. The work described is a natural outgrowth of revision work on a number of these tables and is concerned specifically with point-of-view Table 1i. The discussion began with a definition of the concept "point-of-view" and was followed by an analysis of the table in question - a table which contains terms which do not meet the requirements of the definition. In her analysis Broughton found terms that could be categorized as *form*, *operations*, *properties*, and *persons (or agents)*. This led her to conclude that much of table 1i needs to be distributed to

other auxiliaries and/or main classes. Some, in particular the "*properties*", are candidates for a new table. This paper will be of interest to UDC users because it will soon have considerable impact on the application of UDC as a whole.

In the third paper Gerhard Reisthuis discussed the structure and possibilities for the MRF. The MRF, as it was originally designed and presently exists, was developed as source file for the publication of the printed versions. However, in this paper it is assumed that the facilities of the MRF could be expanded for use by both indexers and searchers. The author provided a detailed illustration of the MRF record format and discussed possibilities for searching the database. The currently existing MRF has a number of shortcomings for its use in these functions but it is assumed that these could be overcome. In conclusion Reisthuis briefly discusses other uses of the database, including the preparation of the printed version of UDC, the searching for a notation during the indexing process and the decomposition of complex notation. However, as he explains, the latter function is often not straight forward.

The final paper by Marie Balikova, Bohdana Stoklasova and Stanislav Psohlavec (Czech Republic) gave a presentation on the "Bilingual (English-Czech) UDC Master Reference File on CD-ROM" which has been developed for the National Library of the Czech Republic. The Library had obtained a license to publish a bilingual English-Czech version of the UDC MRF and the development of special software for publication on CD-ROM. While a printed format was at first preferred, the CD-ROM format was chosen for economic reasons and because of the flexibility it would lend itself to constant updating. The project was carried out in conjunction with an administrative decision to continue to use UDC as it the National Library's classification scheme rather than switch to DDC. UDC is used by the majority of Libraries in the Czech Republic and continued use of that system was preferable to a move to DDC. Considerable work has been involved in developing the tool and fitting it into the library's processes. The CD-ROM product developed by Albertina icome Praha (AIP) was demonstrated at the workshop.

DDC en langue française

For the purpose of introducing the new French translation of DDC 21, a half day workshop was held at the IFLA Conference in Amsterdam on August 20, 1998. The workshop was sponsored by the IFLA Section on Classification and Indexing and co-sponsored by the national libraries of Canada, France and Quebec. The nature of the project was discussed in a paper Louis Cabral (Canada) directeur

general of ASTED and the organization responsible for the translation. Cabral outlined the perspectives from which the work was viewed. He also discussed the need for such a translation in Canada (particularly Quebec) and in France, described the function of the scientific committee under which the work was done, referred to the financing of the project and the distribution of the completed product

The work of translation was discussed by Raymonde **Couture-Lafleur** (Canada) in his paper "The French Translation of the Dewey Decimal Classification : the Making of a DDC Translation." His presentation referred to the process, the problems and difficulties encountered and indicated that there are "both good things and bad things" about the revisions of this kind. Specifically, here was a need to comply with the English version, so that and some entries were kept were "closer to the English world than to the French reality", but at the same time it was necessary to make some concessions to the needs of French libraries. Not surprisingly he indicates that "a strict translation does impose restrictions, but it also has the advantage of providing a more secure framework". Education and Law were areas where modifications were needed to better reflect French reality. Similarly for French History and Quebec History needed augmentation. The author had words of advice for others who launch into similar projects. The translators must be aware of the enormity of the task and the need for careful preparation and make careful choices at the outset. Those involved must be competent, reliable and efficient and the coherence of the total work has to be kept in view.

Julianne **Beall** (USA), Assistant Editor of DDC, examined the "French Dewey: Potential Influence on Development of DDC." In her discussion, she focused on the content and process of change intended to improve the DDC for world wide use. In doing so she discussed the potential influence of recommendations for change in four areas: the History of France (944.0+), the History of Quebec (971.40+), the Area table for France (T2-44+) and Law (340). Beall began by outlining the dilemma of change to meet needs for the international use of DDC while trying to maintain a stable system for those with large collections already classified in existing class numbers. "How can the pain be minimized?" Beall's basic recommendations are to prefer simple expansions were possible as opposed to restructuring and relocations; to restructure only when it is really needed; to avoid complete revisions where possible; and to avoid the reuse of the name numbers with different meanings. Further she stressed the importance of keeping language editions synchronized and included a brief look at some other translations, namely the Turkish, Spanish and Italian editions. Each of the four areas topics subject to ma-

ior change were discussed in some detail. In each case Beall raised possible alternative ways of approaching problems and outlined the reasons for certain solutions.

Finally a presentation on the "French Translation of Dewey Decimal Classification: Assessment and perspectives from the Scientific Contribution by the Bibliothèque nationale de France" was prepared by Bruno **Béguet**, Suzanne **Jougelet** and Max **Naudi**. The particular aspect of the work carried out by the Bibliothèque nationale de France was the proofreading and editing of the text which had been translated. Their mandate was to verify proper use of vocabulary, appropriate usage and quality of content. Their paper describes the process which was undertaken, and translation problems encountered including the North America bias of the original text. As part of their analysis the authors present a detailed study of three of the domains requiring major modification - Education, French history and Law - which presented problems the French members of the team because of differences in terminological, cultural and content requirements. The business of translation is not easy especially when the communication is across continents. However, the members of the team found the undertaking both "stimulating" and "difficult" while enhancing the quality of exchanges both internal and external to the Bibliothèque nationale de France. In their final words, the authors agreed that "evolution and openness, are needed even though the pitfalls of enlarging the tables by adding too narrow national concepts should be avoided." The papers were available at the conference in both English and French. For further information contact: e-mail Dewey@loc. gov. or Joan Mitchell, editor, Dewey Decimal Classification, Library of Congress, Decimal Classification Division, fax +1 202 707 0279, phone +1 202 707 5265.

DDC News

In the August 1998 "Dewey Decimal Classification Update" it was announced that the first update disc (Version 1.1) of Dewey for Windows is now available from OCLC Forest Press. This version includes changes announced in *Decimal Classification Additions, Notes and Decisions (DC&)*, selected LCSH/DDC mapping from the Dewey home page, additional built numbers, a cuttering function and the OCLC Four-Figure Cutter Tables as well as the *Dewey for Windows Guide*, the online companion guide to help classifiers use the system. The next update (Version 1.2) will be available in late 1998. Among the changes will be the inclusion of the revised area tables for South Africa and the United Kingdom. Version 2.1 will be the final version under Windows 3.1. Beginning in 1999, future versions will be 32-bit applications using Windows NT 4.0+ or Windows 95.