

As might be expected the November meeting also addressed areas to be targeted in the development of DDC 22. It has been announced by the Editor that a draft revision of the area table for South Africa will be published in the Fall of 1998. Another change will be a revision of the United Kingdom area tables to reflect recent changes in administrative units. Main classes under consideration are updates of Computer Science and Medicine and the reduction of Christian bias in Religion. With respect to translations of DDC, the Russian translation of DDC 21 is expected to be completed in the Spring of 1998. A workshop on the Russian DDC will be held at Crimea '98. The French translation of DDC 21 being prepared by ASTED in Canada is also expected in the Spring of 1998 and a workshop on the French edition will be held at the 1998 IFLA Conference in Amsterdam. Work is also in progress on Greek and Icelandic translations of Abridged Edition 13 and Chinese and Italian translations of DDC 21.

As of March 1998, the DDC research agenda targets 4 areas of research with some projects already in place or under way. The first area of research focuses on the improvement of the DDC index to enhance its use in classificatory and subject retrieval. Among the projects are the updating of *Dewey for Windows*, the mapping of LC subject headings to DDC class numbers for inclusion in the *Dewey for Windows* database, with announcements on the Dewey website on a bi-weekly basis, and the integration of terminology from other thesauri and classificatory schemes. The second focus for the research agenda is the improvement of catalogue productivity in the electronic environment by adding decision support features to *Dewey for Windows*. Included here are the use of extended concept trees and the Dewey Cuttering Project. The third objective is to explore the use of DDC in order to enhance subject retrieval in online catalogues and databases. In this category are the development of an end user Dewey, a NetFirst browser, the use of DDC as a switching language and changes in the MARC format to accommodate multilingual classifications systems. The final research objective is to explore the use of DDC as a general organizing device in the electronic environment. This research will concentrate on the Internet, DDC as a basis for expert systems, and DDC in automatic indexing.

A visit to the OCLC website also leads to a number of interesting papers on classification (<http://www.oclc.org/oclc/research/publications/review96.html>) Current papers by Diane **Vizine-Goetz** include the following. "Classification Research at OCLC" provides a brief summary introduction to a number of projects presently in progress in three areas of research - developing customizable views of the DDC, enhancing links to other thesauri, and a project on

"ExTended Concept Trees" is introduced. A position paper prepared for the OCLC Cataloging Project Colloquium examines "Using Library Classification Schemes for Internet Resources" (<http://www.oclc.org/oclc/man/colloq/v-g.html>). This article looks at the characteristics and structure of both DDC and LCC. In a paper on a related topic Vizine-Goetz describes research in which "OCLC Investigates Using Classification Tools to Organize Internet Data".

(<http://www.oclc.org/oclc/new/n226/research.html#investigates>). To illustrate her discussion the author uses examples from the NetFirst database.

### Recent Publications

*Exensions and Corrections to the UDC*. The Hague: UDC Consortium, 1997. v. 19. ISSN 0014-5424

*E&C*, as it is popularly known, covers recent development in UDC tables and includes articles concerning the ongoing revision work of UDC and the use of UDC in practice. It is an essential tool for UDC users. In addition to the Report of the UDC Editor in Chief summarized above, *E&C* 1997 contains 9 articles on topics related to UDC. Two of the articles, "UDC as a Tool for Information Retrieval (general considerations)" by E. Scibor and "Decomposition of Complex UDC Notations" by Gerhard **Riesthuis** focus on the manipulation of UDC notations in computerized retrieval. Three of the presentations, "Developments in Classification and Indexing in Estonia" by Marje **Aasmets**, "The UDC Master Reference File in Martynas Mazvydas National Library of Lithuania" by Nijole **Kolesinskiené** and Marijona **Gobyté**, and "Traditional Chinese Medicine Classification System: an Extension to the UDC" by **Quian Zhang** et. al. describe UDC practices in various countries. One paper, "Language Barriers and Bridges" by Victoria **Frâncu** is a comparative study of three UDC editions. Finally, the four remaining papers - "Report on Revision of UDC 52", "An Odd Point of View: Some Reflections on Table 1i in the UDC Common Auxiliaries", by Geoffrey **Robinson**, "Proposed Revision of UDC 517 'Analysis'", and "Class 61 - Medicine: Restructuring Continued" by I.C. McIlwaine and N.J. Williamson - deal with proposed revisions and projects relating to specific UDC tables. As a regular feature, a section of revised UDC tables which have been completed during the year is included. Major revisions included in the 1997 volume are Classes (1) and (2) - Physiographic regions, and Classes (430) - Germany, 561 Systematic Palaeobotany and 582 Systematic Botany. "Amendments to extended editions" (previously known as the 'Full Edition' but now regarded as a series of 'extended editions' still in use and/or expected to con-

tinue to be published) are included. These amendments affect the common auxiliary tables and the class numbers throughout the main tables. As well, "Germany: Administrative Divisions – an Extended Classification" has been provided by BSI. A short bibliography of "Recent Publications" includes lists of recent UDC editions and UDC-related publications.

**Hjørland, Birger.** *Information Seeking and Subject Representation*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1997. (New Directions in Information Management, no. 34) ISBN 0-313-29893-9

Based on the author's combined background in psychology and information science, this work begins with an introduction to the topic as described in the title. The body of the publication contains chapters covering problems related to subject searching and representation of data, treats the process of subject analysis and knowledge organization and endeavours to address the "concept of subject" – the question "what is a subject?" The author also analyzes the methodological problems of information science and examines "science, discipline and subject field" as the framework for information seeking. There are extensive notes at the end of each chapter and an extensive bibliography is included. This publication provides an excellent overview of theoretical and practical aspects of its subject and brings together in one volume the discussion of subject analysis and representation with information seeking. It is essential reading for library and information science educators, practitioners and students in both knowledge organization and information seeking.

International Study Conference on Classification Research, 6th, London, United Kingdom, 1997. *Knowledge Organization for Information Retrieval: Proceedings of the Sixth International Study Conference on Classification Research*. Organized by FID/CR and University College London, in association with Aslib, the Classification Research Group and the International Society for Knowledge Organization. The Hague: International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID), 1997. FID 716. ISBN 92 66 00 716 1

This conference, the sixth in a series of conferences on classification research for knowledge organization, was planned to mark the fortieth anniversary of the first conference held in Dorking England in 1957. Many of the participants at that first conference were present and gave papers here. The proceedings cover a diverse range of topics on the various aspects of knowledge organization. In all, there are thirty-four papers organized in the order in which they were delivered, including two plenary sessions, and sections on theory, classification and thesauri. Four of the papers included in a separate category were papers not presented at the conference but made available by

participants who were unable to attend. The research of many internationally known scholars and key researchers in the field is represented in the collection. As stated in the preface, no index has been provided "in the interests of speed and economy." The significance of the conference and the importance of its content is aptly stated by Ia McIlwaine in her preface as follows: "The mixture of those who were key figures in the postwar development of classification studies and those who have come to the field rather more recently was highly successful and many were surprised to find that the problems with which they wrestle today are not greatly different from those that have been occupying the minds of specialists in the field for over a generation, and probably a great deal longer. It was pleasing to discover that there were so many stimulating papers coming from such diverse perspectives and fields of interest." These proceedings will be of particular interest to classification theorists, practitioners, educators and students, as well as those involved in information systems design.

A detailed description of the conference based on the abstracts and the recollections of the FID/CR editor appeared in "FID/CR News 44"; an independent review will appear in issue FID/CR News 47.