Report on OCLC Dewey Activities and from the Dewey Editorial Policy Committee

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SAC24-AN-DDC\_EPC

**Dewey Development**

OCLC will be launching DDC as linked data shortly. Earlier this year, the MARC Advisory Committee approved a [proposal](https://www.loc.gov/marc/mac/2024/2024-03.html) to authorize subfields $0 and/or $1 into DDC MARC fields (e.g., 082). These will allow the addition of DDC URIs in MARC records. Individual catalogers will be welcome to add these URIs when available, and OCLC will be systematically adding them in WorldCat.

Subscribers to WebDewey will have full access to Dewey linked data, with no additional charge. Limited data will be available freely. The scope of Dewey linked data will be any established number, i.e., any approved number, built or non-built, in any language version of WebDewey. The data will be available in six languages at launch (English, French, German, Italian, Norwegian, and Swedish), including some built numbers and local extensions not found in the English data.

At this year’s PLA conference, Alex gave a presentation with librarians from Lawrence Public Library, Kansas, and Springfield City Library, Massachusetts. These libraries have adopted the optional arrangement for 220-290 in DDC, which presents a more equitable arrangement of topics in religion compared to the standard, which emphasizes Christianity. The presentation was repeated in June at OCLC’s virtual cataloging community meeting. EPC will likely consider making this the standard for the 200s in the next few years.

We continue to welcome user-driven proposals for updating the DDC. Suggestions, proposals, and other queries can be sent to [dewey@oclc.org](mailto:dewey@oclc.org). We are also letting data drive development efforts, analyzing usage of DDC in WorldCat to identify both classes in need of expansion and areas where the classification may be overdeveloped.

**Editorial Policy Committee**

The committee’s Annual Meeting 145 will be held virtually, July 9-11, 2024. We will be able to give a brief update on the results of this meeting during the SAC meeting, with more details likely in our 2025 Midwinter report.

The following topics will be considered at Meeting 145:

* Qur’an and branches of Islam
* Radicalism
* Christian nationalism
* Institutions of the European Union
* Social problems (discussion paper)
* Vaping and vaping devices
* Ukrainian history
* T1—0285 Computer applications

These are visible on the public Google Drive page at [oc.lc/DeweyExhibits](https://oc.lc/DeweyExhibits).

All proposals from electronic Meeting 144A were approved and have since been published to WebDewey. These topics include cryptocurrency and blockchain; computers in law; Luxembourgish language; and new geographic arrangements for Afghanistan, Morocco, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Andrea Kappler, an ALA appointee on the committee, offered her resignation early in this calendar year after retiring from her position at the Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library in Indiana. We thank her for her service. ALA has appointed Emily McDonald, of Lawrence Public Library in Kansas, to finish Andrea’s term through the end of 2024 and to begin her own term in 2025.

**European DDC Users Group**

The European DDC Users Group (EDUG) held its annual meeting, consisting of a symposium and business meeting, virtually April 25-26, 2024. Presentations at the meeting included discussion of the “approximate the whole” rule, DDC as linked data, and new software features in WebDewey. These presentations, as well as those from previous years, are available on the EDUG website: [edug.pansoft.de](https://edug.pansoft.de/tiki-index.php). EDUG plans to have an in-person meeting next year.