

Report on OCLC Dewey Editorial Work
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Dewey Editorial Development

We continue to publicly post proposals for revisions (exhibits) to oclc.org/dewey/exhibits and request public comment before EPC considers them. Information about how to get involved with the editorial revision process is available at oclc.org/dewey/contributors.

The editors submitted a [discussion paper](#) to the MARC Advisory Committee (MAC) outlining the problem that with the cessation of regularly published editions, the citation of a classification number from Edition 23 becomes less and less useful over time, since numbers can change within an edition. The proposed solution continues the practice of using an edition statement in subfield 2 for the use of print versions (whether print on demand or older print editions), with a proposal for a new subfield e (defined as the “Date of classification number assignment based on electronic version”) for libraries using WebDewey. Comments on the discussion paper are welcome.

With the shift to working from home, the editorial team has been keeping things interesting on the [Dewey blog](#) with a series of posts about current topics. Inspired by news stories and our own shelter-in-place situations, we’ve written about batches of small changes and updates to WebDewey providing enhanced access, such as new built numbers or new LCSH mappings. Topics include cooking and baking, hermits, disabilities, May Day, crafting, cybercrime, and the Black Lives Matter movement.

A timely update comes from former Dewey editor Juli Beall who [proposed three new subdivisions of 616.241 Pneumonia](#): 616.2412 Bacterial pneumonia, 616.2414 Viral pneumonia, and 616.2416 Fungal pneumonia. These changes were added to WebDewey in early May; works about COVID-19 in medicine should be classed with 616.2414 Viral pneumonia. This new number can be added at various places in the 610s and elsewhere—for example, the interdisciplinary number and social services number for viral pneumonia in humans (including COVID-19) is 362.1962414.

Webinars explaining how librarians can get involved with efforts to revise the DDC were held in February and April, with attendees from across the world. For the April webinar, the editors were joined by a community member who worked with us to create new numbers for Gaelic games. Recordings of those webinars are available at the Dewey blog. A virtual update meeting will be presented July 14, including a discussion of Dewey in the context of a library system or consortium; registration details will be shared via the blog.

Editor Violet Fox co-presented a panel at the Public Library Association conference in February on “Addressing Bias in Your Catalog,” discussing how librarians can identify harmful bias in catalogs and evaluate potential solutions that are practical, sustainable, and scalable.

European DDC Users Group

The 2020 business meeting and symposium of the European DDC Users Group, scheduled to take place in Edinburgh in May 2020, was postponed and will be rescheduled.

Editorial Policy Committee

An online meeting of the Editorial Policy Committee was held in February, consisting of four exhibits and one discussion paper. Those topics and the results of that meeting are provided below:

- EPC 142A-S28.1 286.63 Restoration movement—Specific denominations: approved
- EPC 142A-S36.1 362.88 Victims of crimes; 364.1 Criminal offenses: approved with two changes: the class-elsewhere note at 362.8855 was revised to "Class victims of intimate partner abuse, spouse abuse, parent abuse, domestic violence in 362.8292"; in addition, comprehensive works on human trafficking and human smuggling were moved to 364.1551
- EPC 142A-S52.1 Cartography, map making vs. Maps: approved
- EPC 142A-S62.1 Sanitary engineering for rural and sparsely populated areas: approved with one correction: Waste technology—rural should be listed at 628.4091734.
- EPC 142A-S98.1 ANC presidents discussion paper: There were several comments about the discussion paper, with two EPC members weighing in to say this change would be an unwelcome precedent, one preferring manual-like notes at each number from 968.052 through 968.064 in the schedules, and one comment generally in support of the suggested revisions. As mentioned in the proposal text, a fuller proposal will be created for EPC 143.

Six exhibits will be discussed and voted on at the EPC's online meeting 142B in July 2020:

- EPC 142B-S00.1 Conspiracy theories
- EPC 142B-S20.1 Witchcraft
- EPC 142B-S28.1 Pentecostalism
- EPC 142B-S35.1 Space forces
- EPC 142B-S64.1 Fermented foods
- EPC 142B-S79.1 BASE jumping

Comments on the proposals are welcome before the voting period starts on July 27, and can be emailed to members of the committee or to the editorial team at dewey@oclc.org.

The next face-to-face meeting of EPC, meeting 143, was scheduled for September 2020 but will be rescheduled, with a likely date of summer 2021.