**Upcoming DDC Updates**

**Melissa Parent**

The DDC Editorial Policy Committee held EPC Meeting 140 on 12th-13th June 2017. The Committee meets to discuss Dewey updates and changes, meeting face-to-face once a year with an additional electronic meeting in between the in-person meetings.

Many Dewey updates changes were approved at EPC 140 and Dewey users can look forward to a number of changes in the Tables and Schedules. The changes are outlined below and are due to be implemented soon. When the updates are in effect they will generally be noted on the Dewey Blog at <http://ddc.typepad.com/>.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Table | Updates |
| Table 1 -0286 | Additional guidance will be provided to clarify how sustainability should be classed. The concept of sustainability is also relevant at **304.2**, **304.28**, **333.7**, **333.72**, **338.927**, and **628**, and notes at these numbers will be updated for greater clarity and guidance. |
| Table 1 -08 | Previous EPC exhibits and discussions had identified a small number of displaced standard subdivisions arising from use of T1--08[[1]](#footnote-1) where the displaced --08 subdivisions were not accompanied by ‘do-not-use’ notes in the schedules, and/or were not covered by general instructions at T1--08. The editorial team has been addressing displaced subdivisions at --08 and at EPC 140 further regularization was approved. The regularization will see additional instruction provided at **303.38** and **323.3**. Changes at **649.1** will be discussed at EPC 140A in October 2017. |
| Table 2 -56951--56953; -531 | Numbers relating to the Gaza Strip and the West Bank are relocating to numbers that better reflect literary warrant. |
| Table 5 -965Table 6 -965 | Expanded numbers were approved for peoples who speak, or whose ancestors spoke, Nilo-Saharan languages and for Nilo-Saharan languages themselves. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Schedule | Updates |
| 004-006 | Topics associated with computer science will receive a number of updates. **004.6** will see expansions for routers and routing, VPNs and other types of networks, and for packet switching.**005.1** will see a number of changes that provide for specific aspects of software (properties, reliability, compatibility, and reusability); for agile software development and Scrums; and others. There will also be changes to provide for computer programming and computer algorithms and changes to headings that will clarify the difference between programming, computer programming, and software development. The heading changes were approved in principle but full development will need further discussion at the next electronic EPC meeting (in October 2017) or the next face-to-face meeting (in June 2018)**005.7**’s ‘class here’ note will change from ‘Class here high volume data sets’ to ‘Class here Big Data’. At **006.3** there will be changes to provide for specific topics in artificial intelligence and natural computing, in line with current literary warrant. |
| 150s | Expansions at **158.1** will provide for the concepts of mindfulness, personality tests, personal improvement and analysis, and journaling. |
| 300s | **306.77** will see expansions for pornography, group sex, and fetishism.The entirety of **363.4** *Controversies related to public morals and customs* will be discontinued. There will be clarification of where the topics listed there should be classed and the new classifications will place topics into numbers to do not imply moral judgement or the dominant ideology of a particular society. The concept of torture will be provided for at **364.675** to make it distinct from corporal punishment. Regarding the ethics of torture, the editorial team will examine current and possible provisions.  |
| 600s | In the 600s there will be expansions for exercises from the martial arts tradition (affecting **613.7148** and **796.81**), and specific mappings from the relative index to schedule numbers will be added for tai chi and kickboxing.Also in the 600s, there will be an expansion at **616.399** to provide for PKU (Phenylketonuria) as a disease related to protein metabolism. |
| 790s | In the 790s updates will provide clarity around the classification of computer games. However the committee proposed that more work be done to include popularly known genres of computer games. |
| 900s | Period notation in the 900s will benefit from updates to the Number Building Engine, which previously exhibited a quirk where the NBE was unable to use relationships between Table 2 notation and locality-specific historical time periods. There will also be changes in the Manual note at 913-919 and changes in the flow chart given there to provide greater guidance to classifiers.Expansions at **936.3**, **936.4**, and **936.9** will also provide for early history time periods for the Germanic and Celtic regions, as requested by EDUG (the European DDC Users Group) |

One proposed change was rejected at EPC meeting 140.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 530s | Expanding for low-energy nuclear reactions, separate from the mapping for cold fusion, was rejected due to insufficient literary warrant. |

Also at EPC 140 two discussion papers were reviewed. The first discussion paper centred on indigenous groups as sovereign nations with geographic extent. DDC provides for the concept of indigenous groups as sovereign nations, but is unable to satisfactorily capture the geographic extent of these nations *separate* from the geo-political divisions that currently exist within Dewey. This has been a long-standing recognized issue whose resolution has required concerted effort on the part of the editorial team. The EPC gave in principle approval for the editorial team to develop a proposal that would see changes in Table 2, additional manual notes, and instructions at 305.81-89 and 930-990.

The second discussion paper focused on arrangement within 200 religion. The discussion concluded with a commitment to continue efforts to address the emphasis on Christianity. In recent years this issue has been addressed through options at 290, and an optional arrangement in Appendix A of 200
Religion Class with a link to the Dewey Religion Browser. Additional solutions will be investigated.

As always, please feel free to direct Dewey questions and concerns to your [EPC Representative in the Oceania Region](https://www.nla.gov.au/acoc/ddc-editorial-policy-committee). Many changes to DDC are triggered by community feedback and your help is ever appreciated by the editorial team.

1. Displaced standard subdivision: A standard subdivision concept moved to a special provision in the schedule in place of its regular notation from Table 1. A do-no-use note is always provided at the regular location of the standard subdivision concept (DDC Glossary) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)