

**Dewey Section  
U.S. General Division**

**Semiannual Report to OCLC  
July—December 2012**

Prepared by  
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and  
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During the second half of FY 2012, the Dewey Section of the U.S. General Division (USGEN) continued its mission – to develop, apply, and assist in the use of the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC). Editorial work during this period focused on providing exhibits to the Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee (EPC) for the Committee’s consideration during EPC Meetings 135A and 136. The editorial staff within the Dewey Section also continued to update data in the Editorial Support System (ESS), thus making it available in the WebDewey 2.0 environment; they also contributed to the design of new functionality in WebDewey (number building assistant and user contribution).

The Section continued to benefit from the use of the AutoDewey program to automatically assign DDC numbers to works of fiction, poetry, and drama by single authors. Dewey’s staff-sharing arrangement within the USGEN Division have had positive results on production. Dewey classifiers continued to study the feasibility of one to one mappings between Library of Congress classification and Dewey classification in order to expand the use of AutoDewey.

During this period, Dewey classifiers began inputting the Dewey numbers directly into the bibliographic records of the books they classified; previously, the classifiers wrote the Dewey numbers on printouts, which Dewey technicians would use to call up the bibliographic records again and input the numbers. The advantages to having the classifiers begin inputting their own Dewey numbers were threefold: a classifier could now receive credit in the bibliographic record for having classified a book; classifiers no longer needed to keep manual statistics because the statistics could now be gleaned from an automated search of the catalog; and the opportunity for transcription errors was greatly reduced. In order to better utilize staff resources, Dewey technicians Larry Ceasar and Chay Tang were placed on indefinite staff-sharing assignments in other sections, although they continued to be responsible for picking up and sorting books for the Dewey classifiers and delivering full trucks to the Binding and Collections Care Division and the Collection Access, Loan, and Management Division.

Ms. Caroline Saccucci, Dewey section head, recommended three important workflows across ABA, and these workflows have had a direct impact on the Dewey Section. The

first recommendation was to document the decision that books with copycat records containing a 082 field with a second indicator value 4 should bypass Dewey; this is because other libraries have already assigned the DDC and because these records are separately counted for statistical purposes. The ABA Intranet and the *Descriptive Cataloging Manual* were updated to reflect this new scope statement. Ms. Saccucci further recommended that ABA staff use the “Z-Processor for Editions” computer application to process books, which are revised editions of works already in Voyager. Bibliographic records for books are distributed to the bibliographic utilities before the Dewey Section can add the Dewey numbers. When records were created with the “make a copy” functionality in Voyager, it appeared that LC classifiers were assigning Dewey numbers from older editions of DDC to new works, with a 082 field and second indicator value 0. The advantage to the Dewey Section of “Z-Processor for Editions” is that the 082 field in the previous edition record is not copied to the new record. ABAMT subsequently mandated the use of “Z-Processor for Editions” across ABA. Finally, Ms. Saccucci added another strong argument to prohibit the use of the “Z-Processor for CIP Verification” computer application by staff in USGEN and USPL until fixes can be made to it. She determined that the reason why so many verified Electronic Cataloging in Publication (ECIP) records lacked 082 fields was because the “Z-Processor for CIP Verification” program stripped that field from the bibliographic records. She planned a project for a high school volunteer to search for the LCCNs in OCLC to retrieve the master records and for a library technician to input that Dewey number back into bibliographic record in Voyager.

## **I. Development of the Classification**

The assistant editors, Dr. Julianne Beall and Dr. Rebecca Green, and the consulting assistant editor, Mr. Winton E. Matthews, continued to work in the ESS to update data for distribution in WebDewey 2.0.

Dr. Beall and Dr. Green reviewed and tested the version of WebDewey designed to make it easier for users of Abridged Edition 15 to use WebDewey.

The assistant editors tested the WebDewey Number Building Engine. Dr. Beall and Dr. Green prepared training modules for testers of the WebDewey Number Building Engine beta version. Dewey Section staff participated in the final testing period before the Number Building Engine went into production. Dr. Beall and Dr. Green prepared additional training modules on WebDewey number building that were posted at [www.oclc.org/dewey/resources/teachingsite/courses/](http://www.oclc.org/dewey/resources/teachingsite/courses/).

The Dewey editorial staff members continued to assist translation partners in the development of several translations of the Dewey Decimal Classification. They moved forward especially on the French *Guide de la classification décimale de Dewey* (an authorized derivative work based on DDC 23), the French translation of DDC 23, and the Vietnamese translation of DDC 23.

## **II. Exhibits and Electronic Meetings Associated with the 135<sup>th</sup> and 136<sup>th</sup> Meetings of the Dewey Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee (EPC)**

The assistant editors worked on several exhibits for consideration by EPC. Editorial work was supported by consulting assistant editor, Mr. Winton E. Matthews. The following exhibit was completed by Dr. Beall:

135A-13.1            340: Islamic Law (Beall)

Mr. Winton Matthews prepared EPC Action Item: Historical Periods of Mexico to facilitate quick addition to WebDewey of a new number:

972.08/43 Administration of Enrique Peña Nieto, 2012-

## **III. Application of the Classification**

During the period July through December 2012, the Dewey Section classifiers and others assigned Dewey numbers to 25,949 titles, with an additional 2,096 assigned by AutoDewey. Comparable figures for January through June 2012 were 29,761, with an additional 2,546 assigned by AutoDewey. Copied DDC numbers (i.e., 082, second indicator 4) processed at the Library of Congress (LC) further supplemented the total number of records receiving DDC numbers, which resulted in 13,960 titles receiving copied numbers for this period.

As a result of the success of the AutoDewey program and cross training, the Section continues to explore other areas of the Dewey classification for expansion that will correlate with the Library of Congress classification and subject headings.

## **IV. Outreach/Communications/ Publications**

The Dewey blog (<http://ddc.typepad.com>) is an increasingly important tool for the Dewey staff to keep interested users aware of changes to the classification. Between July and December 2012, Dr. Beall and Dr. Green added blog entries for the following topics:

Proposed expansions for Islamic law in 340 Law and related changes: Draft for Comment <http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/07/proposed-expansions-for-islamic-law-in-340-law-and-related-changes-draft-for-comment-.html>

Interdisciplinary Numbers and WebDewey <http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/07/interdisciplinary-numbers-and-webdewey.html>

Higgs Boson? <http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/07/higgs-boson.html>

Derecho! <http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/07/derecho.html>

Malware Monday

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/07/malware-monday.html>

Olympics 2012 Prequel

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/07/olympics-2012-prequel.html>

Athletics (Track and field)

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/08/athletics-track-and-field.html>

Proposed expansions and existing DDC 23 provisions for Islamic law in 340 Law

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/08/proposed-expansions-and-existing-ddc-23-provisions-for-islamic-law-in-340-law.html>

Dewey Online Training Modules

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/07/dewey-online-training-modules.html>

Olympic Basketball Courts

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/08/olympic-basketball-courts.html>

Olympic Etymology

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/08/olympic-etymology.html>

Where in the World Is Carmen Sandiego? or, more to the point, Who in the World is Violet Fox?

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/08/where-in-the-world-is-carmen-sandiego-or-more-to-the-point-who-in-the-world-is-violet-fox.html>

Boring and Dull

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/09/boring-and-dull.html>

Recycling Plastics

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/09/recycling-plastics.html>

Abridged Edition 15 and Segmentation in WebDewey

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/09/abridged-edition-15-and-segmentation-in-webdewey.html>

Summer Draws to a Close

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/09/summer-draws-to-a-close.html>

The Rule of Application

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/09/the-rule-of-application.html>

Follow the Rules

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/09/follow-the-rules.html>

Congratulations, European Union!

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/10/congratulations-european-union.html>

The Rule of Application, Part 2

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/09/rule-of-application-part-2.html>

WebDewey Number Building Tool: Add Instructions and Base Numbers

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/11/webdewey-number-building-tool-add-instructions-and-base-numbers.html>

WebDewey Number Building Tool: User Terms and Predominant Patterns in Relative Index

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/11/webdewey-number-building-tool-user-terms-and-predominant-patterns-in-relative-index-.html>

WebDewey Number Building Tool: Correcting the Number of Zeros Used for Standard Subdivisions Using Edit Local

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/11/webdewey-number-building-tool-correcting-the-number-of-zeros-used-for-standard-subdivisions-using-ed.html>

The First-of-Two Rule

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/11/the-first-of-two-rule.html>

The Rule of Three

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/12/the-rule-of-three.html>

Comprehensive works

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2012/12/comprehensive-works.html>

## **V. Meetings/Conferences/Workshops/Presentations**

Dr. Beall attended the Special Libraries Association Annual Conference in Chicago, IL, July 15-18. She served as the Dewey Section liaison to the SLA Cataloging Committee.

On August 11-16, Dr. Beall attended the World Library and Information Conference (IFLA) in Helsinki, Finland. At the International Dewey Users Meeting (August 14), she gave a presentation on recent and proposed updates to Islam and Islamic Law.

<http://www.oclc.org/multimedia/2012/files/beall-ifla.pdf> With DDC Editor in Chief Joan Mitchell, she met with representatives of the Arabic, French, Icelandic, and Swedish DDC translation teams. She also met with members of the European DDC Users Group Working Group on 340 Law.

Dr. Beall attended annual meetings of the Middle East Librarians Association (November 15-17) and the Middle East Studies Association (November 17-20) both in Denver, Colorado.

On October 26, Dr. Beall and Dr. Green attended the SIG/CR Classification Research Workshop "Classification Research: Past, Prospect and Pinnacles." Dr. Green gave a presentation prepared with consulting assistant editor Giles Martin entitled "A Rosid Is a Rosid . . . or Not."

On December 4, Dr. Beall with Joan Mitchell, met with Phan Thi Kim Dzung, Director, National Library of Viet Nam, to discuss the Vietnamese translation of DDC 23.

On December 6, Dr. Green and Dr. Beall attended an all-day Joint NKOS-CENDI Workshop "Semantic Search: Magnet for the Needle in the Search Haystack."

## **VI. Details/Internships/Staff Sharing**

Mr. Mark Behrens began training Ms. Caroline Saccucci in DDC, focusing on the 900s (History). Mr. Behrens served on the ABA Staff Skills Survey Committee to review the survey and make suggestions to improve it.

Mr. Larry Ceasar, library technician, began a staff-sharing assignment on the USPL Law Section. He continued to pick up and sort books for Dewey and deliver completed Dewey books to BCCD and CALM.

Mr. Michael Cantlon began training Ms. Saccucci in Linguistics (400s). He coordinated the work done by Ms. Jennifer Le, a high school volunteer. He continued as Office Emergency Coordinator (OEC) for the Dewey Section, and as back up OEC for USGEN.

Ms. Violet Fox completed an OCLC internship that focused on upgrading LCSH mappings from PPT (People, Places & Things) status to editorially-mapped status, including designating RI captions for classes externally visible only in WebDewey. Approximately half of her 5000-6000 upgraded mappings have been distributed to WebDewey; the remainder is still under review.

Mr. Robert Roth, (USGEN) Geography, Political Science and Education Section, continued to assign Decimal Classification numbers to Recreation, Performing Arts, and Education.

Ms. Caroline Saccucci, Dewey Section Head, began training in Dewey with Mr. Behrens in the 900s and Mr. Cantlon in the 400s. Ms. Saccucci developed the algorithms to expand AutoDewey for fiction, drama, and poetry by single authors of France and Italy in earlier time periods; these algorithms were reviewed by Dr. Beall and have been sent to David Williamson, ABA Cataloging Automation Specialist, to create the computer application. Ms. Saccucci attended a Dewey Editorial meeting to discuss the Archaeology proposal. Building on her prior Cataloging in Publication (CIP) Program experience, she worked with ECIP Cataloging Partnership Program member Queens Public Library to expand their ECIP scope to include nonfiction juvenile titles in science; she also assumed the role of ECIP Traffic Manager for the Dewey Section. She assumed

responsibility for compiling statistics for the Dewey Section for the monthly and annual reports. Ms. Dorothy Watson, the USGEN Automation Operations Coordinator, continued to gather the Crystal reports statistics and report them to Ms. Saccucci for inclusion in the monthly and annual reports. Ms. Saccucci cleared the shelf of books with problems by identifying the issues and making the corrections herself or sending to the appropriate section for handling. She continued to attend CIP Group meetings and serve on the USGEN/USPL Reorganization Committee. She completed all the required supervisory training courses as well as several cataloging-specific courses, and she reviewed the RDA cataloging of several catalogers in USGEN and USPL. She attended the LC Digital Futures & You Seminar and Briefing on the Bibliographic Framework Initiative as well as a number of Supervisor Fora.

Mr. Chay Tang, library technician, began a staff-sharing assignment on the USPL ISSN Publisher Liaison Section. He continued to work two days a week on the USPL CIP Support Team. He also continued to pick up and sort books for Dewey and deliver completed Dewey books to BCCD and CALM. He assisted Jennifer Le, a high school volunteer in the Dewey Section, in completing her assignments.

Ms. Carolyn Turner-Dixon served as the primary point of contact for Dewey questions from Queens Public Library when Queens expanded its ECIP partnership scope to include juvenile science titles. Mr. Behrens served as her back-up.

Ms. Ruby Woodard, former acting section head, assisted Ms. Saccucci with getting acquainted with the Dewey Section workflows and procedures.

Ms. Jennifer Le, a senior in the Prince Georges County school system, volunteered in Dewey for four days, Dec. 26-31, to complete her service learning hours required to graduate. Mr. Cantlon worked with her during her four days in Dewey. Her responsibilities included searching for the missing Dewey numbers in 73 ECIP records by searching OCLC/WorldCat and making printouts. Mr. Tang input all the Dewey numbers back into the Voyager records; fortunately, each of the records she searched had a Dewey number. She went with Mr. Tang to pick up books from the divisions and sort them on the Dewey shelves. Finally, she searched the LC web catalog to make printouts of records for primarily class P books to assist Mr. Cantlon in his work.

The USGEN Literature section continued to assign Dewey numbers using AutoDewey to works of fiction, poetry, and drama by single authors.