

Consortium membership

Current members of the Consortium are Asociación Española de Normalización y Certificación – AENOR (Spain), British Standards Institution – BSI, Éditions du CEFAL/CELES (Belgium) and All-Russian Institute of Scientific and Technical Information – VINITI. These are publishers responsible for the UDC editions in Spanish, English, French and Russian, respectively. The Consortium itself has responsibility for the publication of the Dutch edition. Details of membership categories and rates are available from the UDC Director and on the UDC Website at <http://www.udcc.org/>.

UDCC Office

Since June 2007 the UDCC has a new Chair, Mr Alan Hopkinson, replacing Prof McIlwaine who chaired the Consortium since June 2006, when Mr Alan Stevens retired from his position. This year, a renewed Advisory Board was established alongside a newly formed group of Associate Editors (<http://www.udcc.org/members.htm#board>) who will assist Dr Cordeiro, the Editor-in-Chief. This renewal is part of the strategy of the Consortium for getting wider collaboration and support. Altogether, twenty eight people from twenty one countries will contribute in different ways to the strategy, maintenance and development, and dissemination of the UDC. The UDCC Director, Dr Patricia Alkhoven, has left the UDC Consortium for a new job in a different organization. Her position will soon be filled in. If you are willing to collaborate or have any queries please contact the UDCC through the following address mail@udcc.org.

Editions of the scheme

Latest editions of the scheme by Consortium members include: the English standard edition, (BSI, 2005) in two volumes (*Vol.1 - Systematic tables* and *Vol.2 - Alphabetical Index*; BSI successfully continues its Web version of the classification, *UDC-online*, <http://www.udconline.net/>); Spanish (AENOR, rev. ed. 2004) and French (Ed. du CEFAL, 2004). VINITI continues publication of the full edition in Russian in separate volumes accompanied with subject-alphabetical index and the UDCC continues to issue the Dutch edition. Editions in other languages: Czech (last rev. ed., on CDROM, 2004), Croatian, Hungarian, Portuguese and Serbian (2005). A Slovenian online edition was released in January 2007.

Extensions and Corrections to the UDC

The results of the revision work will continue to be conveyed through the *Extensions and Corrections to the UDC*, issued annually, together with articles, news of UDC editions and UDC bibliography. The contents of *Extensions and Corrections* are available from the UDCC website since no 16 (1994) as well as the updated lists of major changes and cancellations since 1993 (http://www.udcc.org/major_changes.htm). Besides miscellaneous revisions, *Extensions and Corrections* to the UDC, no 28, 2006, included a revision of parts of the Area Table for countries of east and southeast of Asia and Africa, an expansion of Class 2 to provide detail for Islam and partial revisions in Mathematics and Physics. A progress report on the revision of class 61 Medicine was also published, together with the proposal for 619.1/.5 – Digestive System. In 2005, *Extensions and Corrections* included an *Extended Place Table* as a Supplement. This conveys an updated version of Table 1e – *Common Auxiliaries of Place* to the old ‘full edition’ level of detail that, although not officially maintained, was deemed useful as it is known that many publishers and users need such level of detail. On the same basis, the Consortium published in the 2006 issue of *Extensions and Corrections to the UDC*, no 28, *An Extended Table of Common Auxiliaries (Except Place)*.

Copies of *Extensions and Corrections* no 29, 2007, will be available from December 2007 and may be ordered from the UDC Consortium. It will be published on CD-ROM and in hard copy for 125 € + postage and packing and VAT is applicable.

Future revision work

Plans for future revision work are being prepared and will be settled as soon as the current reorganization of people and the new editorial support system (see below) reach a more stable stage. An overall evaluation of revision needs will be carried out eventually, looking for priorities in schedules that were not subject to revision since 1993. Besides miscellaneous revisions that every year emerge from user queries, urgent needs identified for particular concepts and inconsistencies detected in the schedules, the systematic work under development will continue, such as the update of the Table 1e - *Common Auxiliaries of Place*, being carried out for some years and almost covered, and the work in progress regarding the proposal of a new schedule for Medicine, being prepared by Prof. Nancy Williamson since 1995 and that will be completed this year. Update of class 9 to include examples of combination for the history of countries other than the UK is also being prepared in order to balance the content of this class and make it easy to apply. Revision of Photography and Music are other areas already being looked at, independently of the overall identification of UDC revision needs and priorities referred to above.

Guide to the UDC

A revised edition of the UDC Consortium's book *The Universal Decimal Classification: a guide to its use*, by I.C. McIlwaine, was published in 2007. Croatian and Spanish versions of the 2000 editions are also available and an updated one in Romanian was published in 2007. Other translated editions of the Guide are encouraged. Anyone interested in publishing it in another language should contact the author or the UDCC Director for the conditions that apply. Copies of the English edition of the *Guide* can be ordered from the UDCC in The Hague at 35 Euros per copy (VAT and postage not included).

New editorial support system for UDC

Following a call for tenders issued in August 2006, the development of a new editorial support system for the UDC was contracted out in last December. The main objective is to provide an online collaborative platform to enhance productivity of the UDC editorial revision processes by having a central online point of management with controlled accesses, editing facilities and communication channels for those who collaborate in revision tasks. The preparation of the new system will be accompanied by improvements to the MRF data element set, features to support the management of multilingual MRF records and exports of UDC data additional to the ISO and ASCII files, notably in MARC and XML. The database for the new system is already settled and being tested. The development of the system is expected to be completed until April 2008.

Information Access for the Global Community: an International Seminar on the UDC

A two day International Seminar was organized by the UDCC at its headquarters in The Hague, 4-5 June 2007, aimed at exploring the latest developments and applications of the Universal Decimal Classification. The event gathered an international panel of speakers and was attended by around seventy participants, from over thirty countries, including librarians, subject specialists, editors and translators of the scheme, university lecturers, researchers and LIS students. The abstracts and presentations are available at the UDCC website, at <http://www.udcc.org/seminar2007.htm>, and the full papers will be published in *Extensions and Corrections*, no 29, 2007.

UDCC website, blog & discussion lists

The UDCC website is the main source of updated information about UDC. Improvements are planned for the near future, especially regarding introductory materials for new UDC users, e.g. a renewed version of the UDC outline. In order to expand on communication with users a UDC weblog was created at <http://universaldecimalclassification.blogspot.com/>. An e-mail discussion list is also available, which anyone can join at <http://www.jisc.ac.uk/lists/udc-forum.html>. For Russian speaking users there is an UDC forum at <http://forum.udcc.ru/forumdisplay.php?f=3>.