

UDC 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), All-Russian Institute of Scientific and Technical Information – VINITI and the Czech National Library, which return to membership was approved in October 2007. The Consortium members are publishers responsible for the UDC editions in Spanish, English, French, Russian and Czech, respectively. The Consortium itself is responsible for the publication of the Dutch edition which is published on demand. Details of membership categories and rates are available from the UDC Website at <http://www.udcc.org/>.

UDCC Office and Editorial Team

The UDCC Director, Patricia Alkhoven, resigned to take up a post in a library covering her own academic field. A part-time administrator was appointed, Sofia Kapnisi, who is in charge of the UDCC Office since the 1st November 2007. The UDCC Chairman is Alan Hopkinson (UK) and the UDC Editor-in-Chief is Maria Inês Cordeiro (Portugal). The editorial team is compound of six Associate Editors: Marie Balíková (Czech Republic), Vanda Broughton (UK), Andrew Buxton (UK), Ágnes Hajdu Barát (Hungary), Gerhard Riesthuis (The Netherlands) and Aida Slavic (UK). If you are willing to collaborate or have any queries please contact the UDCC office and editorial team through the following address mail@udcc.org.

Editions of the scheme

Latest editions of the scheme by Consortium members include the BSI English standard edition, (2005) in two volumes (*Vol. 1 - Systematic tables* and *Vol. 2 - Alphabetical Index*) and its Web version *UDC-online* (<http://www.udconline.net/>); the Spanish revised edition by AENOR (2004), the French by Editions du CEFAL (2004) and the Czech revised edition on CDROM (2004). VINITI continues publication of the full edition in Russian in separate volumes accompanied with subject-alphabetical index. Latest volumes are Class 66 "Chemical technology.Chemical industry. Food industry. Metallurgy" (vol. 8, 2007) and Classes 67/69 "Various Industries and Trades. Construction" (vol.9, 2008). An updated full version of the Russian Electronic UDC on CD-ROM was also launched in 2008. The UDCC continues to issue the Dutch edition.

Most recent editions in other languages are the print editions in Croatian, Hungarian, Portuguese (Portugal) and Serbian, all in 2005; in Lithuanian, in 2006, in Portuguese (Brazil) and Slovenian (online edition), in 2007 and in Ukranian, in 2008. A Georgian pocket edition is in preparation. More detailed information can be found at the UDCC website, at <http://www.udcc.org/pub.htm> and <http://www.udcc.org/bibliography.htm>.

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).

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>.

Conferences and publications on UDC

The Proceedings of the UDC International Seminar 2007 - *Information Access for the Global Community*, organized by the UDC Consortium, 4-5 June 2007, The Hague, were published as an Annex in *Extensions and Corrections to the UDC*, 29(2007). Since July 2008, all articles are available online from the *dLIST Open Archive*, at <http://dlist.sir.arizona.edu/2391/>. The next edition of the UDC Seminar is being planned for 2009. The announcement will be made in November 2008.

The Editor in Chief prepared a paper for the *IKONE - International Conference on Future of Knowledge Organization in the Networked Environment*, 3-5 September, Bangalore, India. The paper, entitled *The UDC in a time of change: a status report*, was published in the conference proceedings.

In October 2007, VINITI organized the *SciTech Information - 2007 International Conference*, with one session dedicated to classification systems where the UDCC Chairman, Alan Hopkinson, gave a presentation on the UDC Consortium news and activities. At the *Fifteenth International Conference Crimea-2008*, June 7-15, a new full version of the Russian Electronic UDC on CD-ROM was presented.

A background paper on the evolution and prospects of the UDC was published in *International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control*, 37, no 2 (2008) pp. 23-29, authored by A. Slavic, M.I. Cordeiro and G. Riesthius. The paper, entitled *Maintenance of the Universal Decimal Classification: overview of the past and preparations for the future*, is also available online at <http://dlist.sir.arizona.edu/2388/>.

Projects

Work continues on the development of a new editorial support system for UDC which suffered some delay but is expected to be in full operation by the end of the year.

A new project is emerging since 2007 towards a German edition of the UDC. While this is not a direct undertaking of the UDCC, the project receives full support from the Consortium and several associate editors and members of the Advisory Board are joining efforts to put the project to work on an international collaborative basis. The motivations, strategy and steps already taken are explained in *Extensions and Corrections to the UDC*, 29 (2007) by A. Slavic, J. Pika, G. Riesthius and C. Overfield.

A group of 10 institutions from 7 countries, including the UDCC and co-ordinated by the Middlesex University, submitted a proposal to FP7-ICT-2007-3, for a Small or medium scale focused research project (STREP). The project, entitled *CorDL - Classificatory Ontological Representation for Digital Libraries*, explores the potential of UDC in providing semantic data to enable content to be searched, shared, and reused, particularly in a distributed, multi-lingual environment.

Extensions and Corrections to the UDC

From the latest issue of *Extensions and Corrections to the UDC*, 29 (2007), special mention should be made of the section *Proposals* which includes the work on South American languages by E. Civalero and the final parts of the proposal for 61 Medicine, regarding the *Reproductive and Urogenital* systems. The proposal for Medicine, now complete, represents a major achievement, given the extension and complexity of the task that required more than ten years of persistent work by Prof. Williamson. As explained in her Report, it is not a finished product but rather the completion of the first phase of the project to convert UDC class 61 into a faceted system, and there is still much to be done, e.g. regarding consistency checking, filling in of new concepts emerging from current sources of medicine literature and the much discussed question of the notation, i.e., where in the scheme the revised class of medicine should be placed.

The section *Revised UDC Tables* contains a miscellanea of corrections and minor changes detected since 2006, during the process of MRF analysis and validation undertaken before the MRF migration into the new editorial support system. There are also revisions of the Table 1e - Common Auxiliaries of Place, covering Romania and Latvia, while work is advancing regarding a variety of other countries that will be ready for publication in 2008. Following the publication of an extensively updated full version of the *Global Forest Decimal Classification* (GFDC) in 2006, the UDC class 630 Forestry which is subdivided based on GFDC was updated accordingly. Finally, class 94 *General History* was extended to include examples of combination for the historical subdivision of individual countries, so far only applied to Great Britain only. This work will continue in 2008 giving priority to countries where UDC is used. Extending 94 not only helps cataloguers but also provides enrichment of the UDC MRF with terminology relevant for information retrieval.

Copies of *Extensions and Corrections* no 29 (2007) may be ordered from the UDC Consortium for 125 € + postage and packing and VAT.