

adding text to the subject notation for searching with words. The procedures are described and applied. Since UDC notations are sometimes complex, each type of aspect had to be dealt with (e.g. common auxiliaries; parallel subdivisions). The results show potential for the searching using notation as a basis.

In "proposals", two UDC classes are presented - Class 2 Religion and Theology and Class 61 Medical Sciences. The revision of Class 2 by Vanda Broughton is described as a "substantial if not to say radical revision of the existing class" which was carried out in response to a need for a "more modern approach to literature". It also responds to the need to get away from Christian bias. The list of religions has been expanded and a small number of extra terms have been added across the class, but the "structure and intention of the scheme remains unaltered".

In keeping with the current thinking on UDC revision, facet analysis is applied in the revised Class 2 where appropriate. The effect of this synthetic capacity is to vastly increase the potential for expansion under any given religion or church. There is an auxiliary "table of general concepts" ('01/'09) to facilitate this process, and an auxiliary "table of special concepts" ('1/'9) for concepts special to a particular religion or church. For example there are major expansions for religious texts in both Judaism and Christianity. Also, predictable and consistent order has been incorporated.

The Class 61 proposal is part of an ongoing experiment to carry out a complete restructuring of Class 61 based on the *Bliss Bibliographic Classification*. "Class 61 - Medicine: Restructuring progress 1999" by I.C. McIlwaine and N.J. Williamson describes the year's work on this project. Included in the proposal are 611 Anatomy and Physiology; 612 Health sciences (general); 613.1/.4 Health, hygiene and Preventive medicine. Environmental health and safety; 613.5/.9 Curative medicine. Medical care (narrowly); 614.1/.9 Clinical Medicine .

Currently 615 Diseases and Pathology is under revision and a decision has been made to adapt the World Health Organization (WHO) International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Matters for use in Class 61. When 615 is finished the general classes of medicine will be complete. 616/619 will be devoted to the particular organs and systems of the body.

"Revised Tables" (i.e. new tables now authorized for use) include the new "Table of Common Properties", amendments to the area table (Table 1e), including an expansion for Canada and a restructuring for the United States of America. There are also noteworthy revisions to the tables for Tourism (338.48)

and Environmental Science (502/504) as well miscellaneous revisions throughout the whole of UDC.

UDC Pocket edition

In late 1999, the British Standards Institution (BSI) announced the publication of *UDC -Pocket Edition*. (PD 1000: 1999). This publication is a new compact version of UDC intended for training and personal use. The publisher has stated that it "answers a long-felt need for a version that is compact, low-cost and user-friendly for beginners". It will be useful for learners, staff training, for organizing electronic files and for classifying small collections. It contains approximately 4000 entries and "preserves the essential characteristics of UDC" and eliminates unnecessary material. It is based on the Master Reference File (MRF), the UDC database of 61,000 records and includes the latest updates. It also includes a new introduction explaining the structure of UDC. It is now available from: BSI Customer Service, BSI Standards, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL, United Kingdom. Tel: +44 (0) 20 8996 7000; Fax: +44 (0) 20 8996 7001; e-mail: info@bsi.org.uk. ISBN 0-580-33045-1. Price: 15

Classification Research Group (CRG)

The CRG continues to work on the development of the *Bliss Bibliographic Classification 2nd ed (BC2)* and to revise schedules produced earlier and now outdated. The Group meets approximately five times a year to consider proposals and to discuss problems. At its September 1999 meeting, Jack Mills announced that Bliss Class AY/B Science in general and Physics was at the publisher and was scheduled to be published in early November 1999. At its September 1999 meeting the Group focused on the structure of the Music Class. Inevitably, discussion focused on order and arrangement. In particular should the order of books or scores be decided first? Should there be parallel arrangements or not? How should composers be arranged - chronological or A/Z order?

At the November 1999 meeting, discussion began on the schedule in preparation for Class U/V Technology but rapidly broadened to consider more general issues arising in connection with the subject field Technology within any universal classification. In the course of discussion a number of important points were made: Technology is a subject area that lends itself easily to facet analysis. Further considerations led to a discussion of terminology along social/cultural

lines. One member of the group felt that Engineering is not quite the same as Technology, but found it difficult to define the difference. Also the term Chemical Engineering appears to have a different connotation in American English than in English English, and Engineering has a different meaning in continental Europe. Ultimately it was decided that "the conceptual distinctions with which classification building for information retrieval should be concerned should not attempt to embrace differences of nuance, and that Engineering/ Technology should be treated as a synonymous pair". This led to discussion of the place of Genetic Engineering in a universal classification. Several suggestions were made as follows: subordinate to Applied Biology, in sequence immediately prece-

ding Agriculture; in Biotechnology under Chemical Technology

The February 2000 meeting focused on the outline for the Organic Chemistry Class. Various aspects of the discussion centred on the location of functional groups (organic radicals), the treatment of complex organic compounds and notation. It was planned that the upcoming April 2000 meeting should be a discussion of "developments in technology in the last decade and sources for establishing new concepts and vocabulary". The purpose of this discussion would be to assist Eric Coates in his work of updating the Technology Class, which was completed in 1990 and is now being updated and prepared for publication.

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