

Catalogue and Index

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Editorial

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Classification is the theme of this bumper issue of Catalogue and Index. There was a tremendous response to the call for papers, illustrating the importance and interest in classification to the U.K. cataloguing and metadata community. The classification discussed in this issue comes in many flavours, including the usage of classification schemes, digital tools for classification, the theory of classification, reclassification, and much more besides.

The issue starts by exploring the usage of classification schemes. Deborah Lee and Anastasia Kerameos outline the results of a survey into U.K. classification practices, linked to the recent CILIP CIG workshop "Thinking about classification". John Akeroyd and Aida Slavic discuss how UDC is used, including survey results relating to the U.K. and the use of UDC in repositories and as part of catalogue records. Vanda Broughton discusses classification theory and how classification (and classification schemes) are still a critical part of organizing information.

Reclassification is another significant part of cataloguing and classification life, and this issue is a rich source of information about various reclassification projects. Sean Goddard and Tim Haillay describe a reclassification project at the University of Sussex, specifically focussed on language and literature. Jane Del-Pizzo discusses a project to standardise classification at the University of Law, where the Thema classification scheme was adopted. Nicky Ransom outlines a workflow for reclassification that has been tried and tested at the University for the Creative Arts. Martin Kelleher discusses a particular issue involving LCC, literary authors and Cutter numbers, and describes how the University of Liverpool have carried out reclassification projects to resolve some of the arising issues.

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Editorial continued...

Some articles focus on specific classification schemes, and in particular the relationship between classification schemes and library users. Penny Doulgeris shares her experiences of using UDC at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and considers the advantages and disadvantages of using UDC, in particular how UDC serves the community of users. Mary Mitchell talks about her experiences devising a completely new classification scheme specifically written for a private library, and describes how she sometimes needed some unconventional thinking to create a systematic scheme which also met the client's needs. David Harwood and Alison Hazelaar discuss their in-house classification scheme, the Garside classification, at the University of Leeds, including its history, revisions and the challenges and opportunities offered by using a local classification scheme.

The huge role that technology has to play in classification is also explored. Marcin Trzmielewski and colleagues from the University of Pavia introduce a new tool, "SciGator", which provides mapping between DDC, local usage of DDC and other classification schemes, illustrating the potential of mapping tools to bring together data residing in different knowledge organization systems. Edmund Wilkinson discusses augmented reality (AR) in libraries, and how augmented reality can bring together the library catalogue with the classification of objects, and the physical resources with the electronic resources. Stella Dextre Clarke introduces the ISKO Encyclopedia of Knowledge Organization (IEKO), an open access, peer-reviewed, online encyclopedia for key concepts, issues, and more, in knowledge organization, showing how technology can also help to further classification thinking and research.

Finally, Stephanie Moran and Eve Lacey provide share their thoughts about the recent CIG events, "RDA in a day" and "Thinking about classification".

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