EPC Exhibit 137-12.2

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THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Dewey Section

To: Jonathan Furner, Chair

Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee

Cc: Members of the Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee

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From: Rebecca Green, Assistant Editor

Dewey Decimal Classification

OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc.

Via: Michael Panzer, Editor in Chief

Dewey Decimal Classification

OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc

Re: Institutional repositories

**Relocations**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **From** | **To** | **Topic** |
| 025.042 | 027 | Digital libraries |
| 025.06 | 026 | Digital libraries devoted to specific subjects |

Last fall we were asked by Regina Reynolds, Coordinator of the U.S. ISSN Center at the Library of Congress where to class institutional repositories (that is, the repositories themselves) that do not have a subject focus. ISSN centers assign three-digit Dewey numbers to the materials they provide ISSN numbers for; institutional repositories fall under their jurisdiction as continuing resources. Specifically, the U.S. ISSN Center is applying Dewey numbers to significant U.S. repositories from the following list: www.opendoar.org.

To better understand the nature of the institutional repositories that the ISSN centers are working with, we studied the characteristics of the institutional repository of the University of Cambridge, which allows the materials in the repository to be accessed by Type. The types included such forms as articles, books or book chapters, manuscript, preprint, presentation, report, thesis, and working paper—types we could easily associate with the academic output of the university’s faculty. But over 90% of the repository belonged in the “Other” category—including posters, annual reports, programs of events, chemical markup language files (these were encountered in the first 15-20 items surveyed; we really do not know the full scope of material types involved).

At its core, the DDC is a subject classification system. This generalization hides several distinctions that may be important for effective classification:

* The first such distinction lies between literature on the subject of an entity and the entity itself. Although the DDC has not been devised with the general intent of classifying entities themselves, the default assumption that an entity itself should class in the same number as literature on the entity seems sound enough. If the DDC were to be applied only to a set of entities, we would expect to class those entities in the numbers already developed for the entities as subjects, rather than to require that an entire parallel shadow classification be developed for them. This principle is already applied, for instance, in the 780s, where the schedule “does not distinguish scores [the entity itself in visual form], texts [literature on the subject of the entity], or recordings [the entity itself in audio form].”
* A second distinction lies between “works of the imagination . . . that are primarily intended to delight” and “works . . . that are primarily intended to inform or persuade” (Manual note at 741.5 Choice between comic books, graphic novels, fotonovelas, cartoons, caricatures, comic strips and subject). The former type of work (works of the imagination) includes literature, music, some films, other works of art; such works are not classed by subject (indeed, some of these works have no subject per se), but are classed in developments specific to the type of imaginative work (e.g., 800, 780, 791.4, 750, 741.5), as are works about them. The latter type of work (works intended to inform or persuade), is, however, classed with its subject.
* A third distinction lies between information containers (e.g., encyclopedias, serials, textbooks, databases); and works about those information containers. The classification gives specific directions to class encyclopedias, serials, textbooks, and databases themselves on specific subjects with the subject. In some of these cases (e.g., encyclopedias, serials) standard subdivisions may be added to reflect form; in other cases (e.g., textbooks, databases), no such addition is possible. General encyclopedia works and general serial publications (i.e., encyclopedias and serials themselves that are not subject-specific) are classed in the 030s and 050s. Although the use of the corresponding standard subdivisions is limited to encyclopedias and serials as forms, the schedule numbers are also used for encyclopedias and serials as subjects. For example, works about Wikipedia have usually been classed in 030; works about Reader’s Digest have usually been classed in 051.
* A fourth distinction lies between works that provide intellectual access to other works (e.g., bibliographies, indexes, concordances, catalogs) and works on those types of works as subjects. For example, bibliography and bibliographies as a subject are classed in 010; catalogs as a subject are classed in 025.31; bibliographies and catalogs themselves are classed in 011. This distinctive treatment is, however, not reflected throughout the schedules. For example, no distinction is made between classification systems as subjects and classification systems as access tools.

In the course of our deliberations, we considered various possibilities, including the following:

* 000, as a number representing a group of subjects so broad that even a broad specific subject cannot be defined[[1]](#footnote-1)
* 020, as a span of numbers for organized collections of bibliographic resources
* 060, as a span of numbers representing the institutions
* 080, as a span of numbers for general collections

After much deliberation, we reached a consensus that if we were to make a distinction between works about institutional repositories and the institutional repositories themselves, the latter should be classed not far removed from the former. Fundamentally, institutional repositories are online archives / digital libraries, which makes 020 the best broad home for them. Moreover, the LCSH Institutional repositories had been editorially mapped to 025.04 Information storage and retrieval systems. We therefore indicated to Regina Reynolds the likelihood of developing a number for institutional repositories themselves somewhere under 025. (Since the ISSN Center assigns 3-digit DDC numbers, developing a number anywhere under 025 could result in the assignment of the same number—025—by the Center.)

The “distinctions” survey above indicates that it is unusual in the DDC to have different notation for aboutness and isness. We therefore propose that institutional repositories themselves be classed in the same number as works about institutional repositories.

But is 025.04 Information storage and retrieval systems the right class for institutional repositories? (Similarly, is 025.042 World Wide Web the right class for digital libraries?) Historically, the phrase “information storage and retrieval systems” has referred to automated systems providing intellectual access (by way of a document citation ) to bibliographic works on the basis of metadata and/or the occurrence of words in the text of those works. Modern information storage and retrieval systems (for example, search engines on the Web) often provide physical access (via links) to documents; in such contexts the intellectual access function is much less visible and is based on rather different assumptions, but the identification of literature relevant to a search query is still the primary function of information storage and retrieval systems (altogether consistent with its placement under 025 Operations of libraries, archives, information centers).

Do digital libraries / institutional repositories, which are collections of digital bibliographic resources, belong in the same number as information storage and retrieval systems, whose primary character is that of provision of intellectual access to bibliographic resources? We believe not. Rather, digital libraries and institutional repositories are more like other libraries than like information storage and retrieval systems. The appropriate general location for them is 027 General libraries, archives, information centers. Various subdivisions of this number—e.g., 027.68 Libraries for nonprofit organizations, 027.7 College and university libraries—would be highly appropriate for institutional repositories. We therefore propose to relocate digital libraries from 025.042 to 027 and to move the LCSH mapping for Institutional repositories from 025.04 to 027.

(The caption at 025.04—information storage and retrieval system—is a term that has often been used in the field with a narrower meaning than a componential analysis of its individual words supports; the broader meaning could encompass all libraries! We believe that the narrower meaning should govern 025.04. Unfortunately, it appears that, over time, 025.04 has been the “beneficiary” of “scope creep,” with digital phenomena being attracted to it [e.g., digital libraries, the World Wide Web] that are not information storage and retrieval systems in the narrow sense. We therefore anticipate coming back to 025.04 in the future to deal with this issue.)

Two further considerations need to be addressed. The first is whether addition of T1—0285 is desirable, to distinguish collections of primarily digital materials from general collections of materials. We note that in the context of 027, no distinction is made between, for example, libraries and archives, a distinction that is probably of more import than the distinction between collections of primarily digital materials and general collections of materials. This argues against adding T1—0285 for institutional repositories and digital libraries. Although we anticipate that print materials will continue to be part of library collections for years to come, the proportion of digitized and born-digital materials is likely to increase over time, which also argues against adding T1—0285.

The second consideration is to note that the placement of institutional repositories and digital libraries in 027 has as a natural consequence that subject-specific institutional repositories and digital libraries should be classed in 026. Heretofore, the assumption has been that subject-specific institutional repositories and digital libraries should be classed with the subject. Do we want to make an exception for subject-specific institutional repositories and digital libraries? Assumptions, no matter how broadly shared, seem, in and of themselves, to be insufficient motivation for an exception. We are aware of no other motivation, so we need to show that subject-specific institutional repositories and digital libraries are classed in 026.

While working on 026 and 027, we would also like to clean up some wording issues to impose greater consistency, while retaining the “scannability” of the captions. First, we have retained “libraries” as the term used in lieu of the cumbersome (and now even longer) assembly of terms, “libraries, archives, information centers, institutional repositories, media centers, and their digital equivalents” and have used that term consistently in contexts applicable to all types of information organizations. Second, we have positioned the note regarding use of that term as a Manual-like definition note under both 026 and 027, so that it precedes the standard-subdivisions-are-added note. It should then be reasonably clear why the note uses “any or all” wording rather than “either or both” wording. We have also used the term “shorthand for” rather than “short way of saying;” the latter is more likely to engender word-for-word translations. Third, we propose some deletions from the class-here notes at both 026 and 027 that we find unnecessary and therefore potentially confusing.

The schedule changes needed to implement this proposal are shown on the following pages.

025.04 Information storage and retrieval systems

Including recall, precision, relevance

Class here search and retrieval in information storage and retrieval systems; front-end systems; comprehensive works on online catalogs integrated with information storage and retrieval systems, on automated storage, search, retrieval of information; interdisciplinary works on databases

Class aspects of information storage for specific types of retrieval systems with the aspect for the type of system, e.g., mark-up languages for web retrieval systems 006.74, record formats for bibliographic retrieval systems 025.316

*For computer science aspects of information storage and retrieval systems, of databases, see 005.74; for information storage and retrieval systems, bibliographies of web sites~~, digital libraries~~ devoted to specific subjects, see 025.06. For a specific kind of information storage and retrieval system, see the kind, e.g., online catalogs 025.3132*

*See also 658.4038011 for management use of information storage and retrieval systems*

*See Manual at 025.04, 025.06 vs. 005.74*

025.042 World Wide Web

Class here interdisciplinary works on World Wide Web [*formerly* 004.678]; ~~digital libraries,~~ Internet viewed as an information storage and retrieval system, Internet literacy

Class interdisciplinary works on Internet in 004.678

*For specific aspects of World Wide Web, see the aspect, e.g., computer science aspects of World Wide Web 004.678*

*See Manual at 004.678 vs. 006.7, 025.042, 384.33*

Digital libraries relocated to 027

025.06 Information storage and retrieval systems devoted to specific subjects

Class here bibliographies of web sites devoted to specific subjects, ~~digital libraries devoted to specific subjects,~~ documentation of specific subjects

*See Manual at 025.04, 025.06 vs. 005.74*

Digital libraries devoted to specific subjects relocated to 026

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**>**  026–027 Specific kinds of institutions

Class here specific libraries~~,~~ and archives~~, information centers,~~ and their collections; systems and networks for specific kinds of institutions; comprehensive works on operations in specific kinds of institutions

Class comprehensive works in 027. Class a specific operation in a specific kind of institution with the operation, e.g., reference and information services in college libraries 025.52777

026 Libraries~~,~~and archives~~, information centers~~ devoted to specific subjects

In this number and its subdivisions, the term libraries is used as a shorthand for libraries, archives, information centers, institutional repositories, media centers, and their digital equivalents

Standard subdivisions are added for any or all topics in heading

Class here digital libraries devoted to specific subjects [*formerly* 025.06]~~, information organizations and library departments and collections in specific subjects~~; comprehensive works on special libraries

*For special libraries not devoted to specific subjects, see the kind of library in 027.6, e.g., general museum libraries 027.68, general libraries in newspaper offices 027.69*

*See Manual at 016 vs. 026, T1—07*

~~026.000 1–.000 5~~ ~~Standard subdivisions~~

026.000 1 Philosophy and theory

026.000 2 Miscellany

026.000 285 Computer applications

Do not use for digital libraries; class in 026

026.000 3–.000 5 Standard subdivisions

. . .

026.001–.999 Specific subjects

Add to base number 026 notation 001–999, e.g., physics archives 026.53, medical libraries 026.61; however, do not add notation 0285 from Table 1 for digital libraries, class in base number; do not add notation 068 from Table 1 for organizations and management; class in 025.19

027 General libraries~~,~~and archives~~, information centers~~

In this number and its subdivisions, the term libraries is used as a shorthand for libraries, archives, information centers, institutional repositories, media centers, and their digital equivalents

Standard subdivisions are added for any or all topics in heading

~~In the subdivisions of this number, the term libraries is used as a short way of saying libraries, archives, information centers, media centers~~

Class here digital libraries [*formerly* 025.042], comprehensive works on libraries and archives~~, on archives, on information centers, on libraries and information centers~~ devoted to special materials

*For libraries~~,~~**and archives~~, information centers~~ devoted to specific subjects, see 026*

~~027.001–.005~~ ~~Standard subdivisions~~

027.001 Philosophy and theory

027.002 Miscellany

027.00285 Computer applications

Do not use for digital libraries; class in 027

027.003–.005 Standard subdivisions

1. It has not been general practice at the Library of Congress to assign 000, although no directions are given not to use it. Our colleagues at Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, however, have assigned the number and suggest that if it is not meant to be used, some instruction to that effect should be given. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)