

files have made possible a reconceptualization of UBC. Each national library is now responsible for establishing all name headings for its users consistent with its rules and language preferences. These authority records are then interconnected in a widely accessible Virtual International Authority File (VIAF) to enable libraries to search and retrieve useful information from other national libraries' authority files. Ultimately, VIAF could enable users to search with the headings of their preferred community to find records in the local library or other database, wherever it may be.

Two other presentation papers are included in the volume. John D. Byrum's "IFLA's ISBD Programme: Purposes, Process, and Prospects" describes the history of the International Standard Bibliographic Descriptions (ISBDs), the process by which they are created, reviewed, and revised, and current issues, including correlating FRBR and ISBDs, dealing with multi-format publications, and managing series and standard number information. Patrick Le Bœuf discusses a wide range of FRBR issues in the lively "Brave New FRBR World." Of particular interest is his suggestion that FRBR needs a "package content" level intermediate between expressions and manifestations to account for the aggregation of expressions that often make up a single bibliographic resource (47).

A collection of background papers discusses various aspects of heading choice and formulation, the major focus of the 1961 Paris Principles. A few highlights: Pino Buizza and Mauro Guerrini's "Author and Title Access Point Control" opens with the cogent observation that, "Forty years later we find the *Paris Principles* had positive effects on the choice of headings but not on their form; each code followed its particular course, mostly retaining its local tradition" (72). The paper goes on to review these divergent traditions as they apply to name headings.

Appended to the paper is a list of the multiple forms found when prominent names are searched across ten national library databases. Guerrini also contributes "Corporate Bodies from ICCP up to 2003," a valuable account of the history of corporate body concepts and naming conventions in library cataloging. He analyzes the conflicting rationales that underlie varying cataloging practices, in particular regarding the vexed concept of corporate authorship.

Ingrid Parent's "From ISBD(S) to ISBD(CR): A Voyage of Discovery and Alignment" recounts the events and decisions that led the ISBD(S) Working Group to widen the focus of ISBD(S) to encompass continuing resources in general. Such changes cannot be made profitably in isolation, and Parent stresses the importance of ensuring that AACR, ISBD, and ISSN rules for title changes in particular all keep pace with one another. Ann Huthwaite's "Class of Materials Concepts and GMDs" discusses the problems posed by multifformat resources and offers suggestions for how to resolve them. Rather than defining a chief source and prescribed sources of information for each class of materials, she recommends a general rule to use the "source which provides most complete information" and trusting cataloger's judgment (150). She also sees a need to divide the current list of General Material Designator terms into expression and manifestation level terms, and to find a suitable place for the former. A series of brief summaries from the Meeting of Experts working groups and various lists of the participants round out the volume.

This book will be of interest to anyone following the development of cataloging concepts and rules at the international level. As is often true at this level, the discussion is pulled in conflicting directions. Wading into these issues, the reader can see the vision of well integrated complemen-

tary records enabling users to navigate a vast sea of diverse resources easily; yet one also feels the competing wash and undertow of varying local practices, concepts, and maps of the contents of that sea. Meanwhile, the work goes on. The second IME-ICC was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 2004. For more information about the first and second IME-ICC meetings see the conference Web sites: www.ddb.de/news/ifla_conf_index.htm (IME-ICC1) and www.loc.gov/loc/ifla/imeicc (IME-ICC2).—*Stephen Hearn* (s-hear@tc.umn.edu), *University of Minnesota, Minneapolis*

Essential Classification. By Vanda Broughton. New York: Neal Schumann, 2004. 324pp. \$55 paper (ISBN 1-55570-507-3).

In 1964, Barbara Kyle published an excellent little book in the Teach Yourself series, *Teach Yourself Classification* (London: EUP, 1964). This is a clear exposition of the basic essentials of classification for those unacquainted with the discipline. Some forty years later, Vanda Broughton has done likewise for the twenty-first century with the publication of this basic introduction for those who have no background in classification, a discipline that Barbara Kyle commended as a compulsory school subject. *Essential Classification* is primarily concerned with library classification and other methods of subject retrieval. Despite the title, the work also handles such retrieval methods as subject headings and thesauri, which, although they have strong links with classification per se, are not really classifications in the strict sense. This book is based largely on the author's experience in teaching subject retrieval and has strong affinities with a programmed text, containing exercises scattered throughout with answers and explanations. It is written in an informal style and will be easily digested by those who have little acquaintance with classification.

The book begins by looking at the basic principles of classification and briefly reviews other forms of classification before proceeding to bibliographic ones. Enumerative, analytical-synthetic, and faceted classifications are distinguished, and matters of main class order, literary warrant, and notation are looked at before the main problems, those of document description and the translation of that description into the terms of either a classification scheme or a subject headings list or both, are discussed. The systems used in the Library of Congress (LC) are first selected for review, a sensible choice since the Library of Congress Classification (LCC) works best when accompanied by the Library of Congress subject headings (LCSH), and the two together provide a good starting point for an exposition of systematic combined with alphabetical systems. (A minor point—LCSH now occupies five volumes, as correctly noted in the bibliography, although not in the text, and the “Red Books” are now green). There are some comments on the nonpolitically correct language to be found in these standard systems, but the point could legitimately be made that the listing of a term does not signify approval, merely the fact that literature exists on the topic.

The intricacies of the tables in LCC are clearly explained, using Class H, by far the most complex of all the places where these occur, as the pattern for demonstration. The introduction of the Web-based version has greatly simplified the practical application of these, but they still remain a problem for the novice. Cutter numbers, again, although familiar to an American audience, are not often found in England and these, too, cause students unaccustomed to them some difficulty. The point that only LC will create the “right” Cutter number for a particular work is worth noting, since with a new book, a cataloger has no

way of knowing what cutter number will be assigned, since it is totally dependent upon LC stock.

LCC and LCSH are followed by the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC)—this classification is also developed more extensively in a companion work in the same series, *Essential Dewey*, by John Bowman (New York: Neal-Schuman, 2005). Clear instructions on how to handle complex subjects that do not fit precisely into a given class number and the complexities of number-building are well demonstrated. Class 8, which is probably the easiest to classify when one knows the right answer, and one of the most difficult for the novice who has no idea of how to build up numbers, is avoided, as is class 78, another class that requires very clear thinking as well as a good understanding of the basic principles of facet analysis.

The Universal Decimal Classification (UDC), unlike its parent DDC, merits two chapters, the first setting out the general principles on which the scheme is based while the second is devoted to the use of the auxiliary tables. The scheme is clearly explained and the plentiful supply of exercises will assist the novice through notational intricacies as well as the plethora of tables that form the jigsaw pattern necessary for the precise identification of subjects which that scheme permits.

The work concludes by discussing faceted classifications, although inevitably facet analysis pervades the discussion throughout, in a general way. Here the exposition is more specific, giving attention to the work of Ranganathan and of the Classification Research Group, and going into deeper explanation of the principles of hierarchy, order in array, citation order, and schedule order. This leads naturally into that constant stumbling-block, the principle of inversion, which is clearly explained and well-illustrat-

ed with copious examples. The final chapter discusses the management of classification and is followed by a useful glossary and suggested further reading where many of the standard works are listed.

There are inevitably a few errors. The author appears not to be very familiar with avian classifications, so it was perhaps unfortunate to select them in the discussion of types of classification. Figure 1.4 mixes orders and families and omits the essential division into passerines and non-passerines, treating the former as if it were a family, and Sibley and Munro developed their classification well before 1993, which is the date when they published their *World Checklist of Birds* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale Univ. Pr., 1993), based on their earlier work, *Distribution and Taxonomy of Birds of the World* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale Univ. Pr., 1990), and on Sibley and Ahlquist's *Phylogeny and Classification of Birds* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale Univ. Pr., 1990). The proofreading has clearly been thorough, though again one instance slipped through the net on page 157, where it is stated that the cutter number for Rabuzzi is R33 and on the next line it appears in the class mark as R28.

Despite minor blemishes, this work will be one that many novices both in schools of library and information studies and in the actual working environment will relate to and find a palatable and manageable introduction to a discipline which many find mystifying in the early stages. Its provision of exercises and answers (often the best way of working out how a class number should be built, when one has little knowledge of a classification scheme) make it a teach yourself book in the twenty-first-century style.—I.C. McIlwaine (*imcilwaine@aol.com*), *Editor in Chief, Universal Decimal Classification, Norfolk, England*