UDC as a non-disciplinary classification for a high-school library

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Outline

• the Lycée Camille Guérin
• the library
• inter-disciplinarity
• re-shaping of UDC
• form indexes and place indexes
• some special cases
• evolution
Lycée Camille Guérin
Lycée Camille Guérin

• 1500 students
  – 750 secondary students
  – 750 college students (CPGE)

• 180 teachers
Lycée Camille Guérin

• 1500 students
  – 750 secondary students
    • 3 majors up to baccalauréat
      – Scientific
      – Economic and social
      – Humanities (literature, languages, history, art)
Lycée Camille Guérin

- 1500 students
  - 750 secondary students
  - 750 college students (CPGE)
  - 2 years to prepare competitive exams to enter:
    - Business schools
    - Engineer schools
    - Upper teacher training schools
    - etc
The Library
The Library

• CDI : purposes
• Merger of two former distinct units
• Documents available
The Library

• CDI: purposes
  – Centre de Documentation et d’Information
    • To provide documents for teachers and students
      – Included information about future studies or jobs available
    • To teach methodology of information retrieval
    • To lead and advise users
The Library

- CDI: purposes
- Merger of two former distinct units
  - Before 2001: two distinct units
  - 2001: merger of those
    - All documents to equip or re-equip, while in use
The Library

• CDI: purposes

• Merger of two former distinct units
  – Which classification?
    • Both were in UDC
    • Maintain or move to DDC?
    • Which version? Changes?
The Library

• CDI : purposes
• Merger of two former distinct units
• Documents available
  – ~ 25000 books
  – ~ 100 periodical titles
    • Most of them on living subscription
  – Videos and other means
Inter-disciplinarity

- Vocabulary
- Pedagogy
- What kind of document retrieval
Inter-disciplinarity

• Vocabulary
  – In fact synonyms: inter-disciplinarity, pluri-disciplinarity, trans-disciplinarity, multi-disciplinarity, etc
Inter-disciplinarity

• Vocabulary
  – A discipline:
    • Studied objects
    • Methods
    • Exercises
Inter-disciplinarity

- Vocabulary
- Pedagogy
  - Promotion and development of different types of activities crossing different disciplines
  - At the high school level: TPE
Inter-disciplinarity

- Vocabulary
- Pedagogy
  - TPE : Travaux Personnels Encadrés
    - Almost two different disciplines
    - A question, a problem to solve
    - Information research (and for sciences an experimentation)
    - Within an autonomous group of 2 to 4
Inter-disciplinarity

- Vocabulary
- Pedagogy
  - Objective: to have more autonomous students
  - Consequence: studied objects more autonomous from disciplines
Inter-disciplinarity

- Vocabulary
- Pedagogy
- What kind of document retrieval
  - What is the right question?
  - What am I searching?
  - A matter of question analysis (and therefore of document analysis)
Re-shaping of UDC

• From discipline to phenomenon
  – Why
  – How
  – When
Re-shaping of UDC

• From discipline to phenomenon
  – Why
    • Many studies now use different points of view
    • Many subjects or notions no longer belong to only one disciplinary domain
    • During their curricula the students have to face that type of pluralistic approach
Re-shaping of UDC

• From discipline to phenomenon
  – Why
    • The setting of documents has to reflect this situation
Re-shaping of UDC

• From discipline to phenomenon
  – Why
  – How
    • The UDC in fact allows this new reading
    • The meaning of indexes was translated
    • The document is classified according to the nature of the studied phenomenon and not to the discipline
    • The facet possibilities of UDC
Re-shaping of UDC

- From discipline to phenomenon
  - Why
  - How
  - When
    - Due to the merger, we had to control each document
    - Then we reconsidered the index
    - We did it with the 7th abridged French edition
    - Though we didn’t blindly follow it
Form indexes and place indexes

• Dictionaries, Atlases, Textbooks
• Places: geographical, historical and economical description and analysis
Form indexes and place indexes

- Dictionaries, Atlases, Textbooks
  - As indicated in the user manual we placed first the form index in those cases
  - (038) for dictionaries
  - (075) for textbooks
  - (084) for atlases
Form indexes and place indexes

• Dictionaries, Atlases, Textbooks
• Places: geographical, historical and economical description and analysis
  – We recently gathered the documents about places and countries, putting the place index first
Some special cases

- Languages and literature
- Religion
Some special cases

• Languages and literature
  – We didn’t move to the new language indexes
  – We gather books by an author, about this author, about his works
Some special cases

• Languages and literature
• Religion
  – We moved to the newest class 2.
Evolution

• Tasks still to do
• Possible evolutions
Evolution

• Tasks still to do
  – The building of an authority table first by listing the indexes used and the meanings given to them
  – To solve some remaining problems and hesitations
Evolution

• Tasks still to do

• Possible evolutions
  – Move to DDC or classical UDC following official instructions or negative evaluation
  – Acknowledgement and improvement of the system
Suggestion

• For you to put all this into perspective

• Alberto Manguel, *The library at night*, and especially the second chapter about order.
Thanks for listening

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