At this time, the Unicode Consortium is working on preparing the text and contents for The Unicode Standard, Version 4.0. As a significant milestone, the members of the UTC recently reviewed the introductory and overview chapters, as well as the core normative-content of the standard.

The character repertoire of the standard will be finalized so that it matches the repertoire of 10646-1, including Amds 1 and 2 and 10646-2, including Amd. 1. Because of this, it will also match the content of the merged edition of 10646.

The work on the text will be concluded in March 2003, after which it will take until August 2003 to produce a revision of the Unicode book. The book will be available from Addison-Wesley.

Some parts of the Unicode Standard are only available on-line. These are the character property data, as well as some sections of the standard that are not published in book form, but in report form. These are called Unicode Standard Annexes. The online content of the standard will be available before the book is released by the publisher, and are also contained on a CD-ROM.

The Unicode Character Database will see extensive review, starting, in stages, this month, and finishing in March 2003 at the next UTC meeting.

Meetings
The date and location of meetings of the Unicode Technical Committee can be found on http://www.unicode.org under 'Calendar of Meetings'. Minutes of the meetings are pub-
licely available and attendance is open to representatives of full and associate members, as well as to other members, liaisons and observers.

At the last UTC meeting, Mr. Ed Hart was presented with a merit award for his many contributions to both Unicode and ISO/IEC 10646.

Conferences
There will be an International Unicode Conference in Prague, in March 2003. See http://www.unicode.org/iuc/iuc23 for details. At the last conference Mr. Markus Scherer from IBM was presented with the Unicode Bulldog award at the 22nd International Unicode Conference in San Jose, California.

In September 2003 there will be a Unicode and Internationalization conference in Atlanta, see http://www.unicode.org/iuc/iuc24.