

TO: UTC
FROM: Debbie Anderson (SEI, UC Berkeley)
SUBJECT: Numeric value fixes for two cuneiform characters (for 6.2.1.)
DATE: 12 October 2012

At UTC meeting #132 (Redmond, WA, July 30 - Aug 3, 2012), the UTC passed by consensus the following motion:

[132-C19] Make U+12456 and 12457 have the numeric type "numeric" and value "-1". See L2/12-240.

However, upon checking with the cuneiform expert, Steve Tinney, and our Unicode collation specialist, Ken Whistler, it was clear that for collation purposes U+12456 and U+12457 should *not* get the value -1 (for undefined numerical value), but instead get values 2 and 3, respectively.

Based upon this input, I request that U+12456 and U+12457 be fixed for 6.2.1 with the values 2 and 3.

Below is my question and the response from Steve Tinney:

Q: Can you provide the numeric value for the following?
U+12456 CUNEIFORM NUMERIC SIGN NIGIDAMIN
U+12457 CUNEIFORM NUMERIC SIGN NIGIDAESH

A: These are not independent numbers but are a combined count+unit grapheme which is restricted to certain metrological contexts; NIGIDAMIN is 2 barig-measures and NIGIDAESH is 3 barig-measures--we tend to transliterate these as 2(barig) and 3(barig) these days.