Use of ORCID to Improve Consistency of Authors Name and Research Impact in Scholarly Communication

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Abstract: - *The article discusses the current scenario of ORCID(Open Researcher and Contributor ID), a nonprofit organization dedicated to reduce name ambiguity problem. The ORCID is an online system providing authors with a unique identifier that can be applied to their publications throughout career for scholarly communication. It helps scholars, organizations, publishers and funding agencies. It has no limitation of geographic region, multidisciplinary, open source and non-commercial. It gives full credit to researchers for their work and helps them track their citations, calculate their h-index, or create a bio sketch for funding agencies. ORCID system has to face some challenges such as many research institutions do not understand the practical applications of ORCID, and academics have never heard of it. Hence, Research and academic institutes should make efforts to promote the use of ORCID and can create online tutorials and resource guides.*

Keywords: ORCID, Scholarly Communication

1.0   Introduction: The ORCID which stands for "Open Researcher and Contributor ID" system is an international, interdisciplinary, open, and not-for-profit organization. It is governed by an elected Board of Directors. Membership in the Board of Directors is drawn from ORCID member organizations. The organization provides ORCID service to help people to find information and simplify reporting and analysis. The Board is responsible for establishing general policies for the governance of ORCID. The policies are based on a set of core principles, openness and transparency. It is created in 2010 for the benefit of research organizations, funders, institutions, publishers, and researchers to solve the name ambiguity problem and supports automating linkages to research activities such as publications, grants, and patents. ORCID IDs are giving individuals a unique, 16-digit numeric identification number (structure of xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx) to any scholar, who is interested. The ID is a randomly-assigned, sixteen-digit number that uniquely distinguishes a researcher from all others in the world and maintains their registry.

1.1 ORCID Features: The features of ORCID are as given below.

a) ORCID is open source and non-commercial.

b) Free for individual researchers.

c) Flexible, easy to use.

d) No limitation of geographic region, multidisciplinary.

e) Easily discoverability of research.

f) Provides scholarly communications.

g) International Scope.

2.0 Needs of ORCID: The researcher who has published papers in journals, conferences, book chapters and other forms, requires a formatfor the recognition, reputation,credit, prestige, funding and reward of his/her research work throughout career. They desire to become expert and popular in the research area. But, they are facing various issues such as:**a)Name Ambiguity Problems:** A researcher's name can appear as different variants. Such as similar or identical names, differences in spellings or translations of names across languages, and changes in their name or affiliations over their career and the problem of accurate attribution of scholarly research output to individual researchers.**b)Communication:**Not proper communication of authentic author's research work to readers.**c)Research Output:** Frustrating to identify the authentic researcher's publications to track citations, calculate h-index, or create a bio sketch for funding agencies. **d)Geographical Barriers:** Researchers work in various institutions/organizations (national/international).**e)Interdisciplinary:**

Many scholars work ininterdisciplinarysubject areas.**f)Collaboration:** Collaborate across disciplines, institutions and an increasing diversity of research information systems. Entering data over and over again can be time-consuming, and often frustrating.**g) Duplication/Repetition:**Researchers have to apply for grants, submit articles for publication, and deposit their work in institutional or subject repositories during their research process. Same information is need for each task. It is time consuming for researchers. **h)Commercial Databases:** arXiv, Research Papers in Economics (RePEc), Research ID (Thomson Reuters), and Scopus Author Identifier (Elsevier) provide facilities to assign a unique researcher identification to their bibliographic records, but these indexed databases belonging to the specific commercial database provider.

Therefore, there has been need for an open, noncommercial, online mechanism to provide authors with a unique identifier that can be applied to their publications. ORCID identifiers provide a unique way to identify researcher as an individual, removing name ambiguity among people. They provide a global identifier recognized by an increasingly large number of organizations, including publishers, funding agencies, and information systems. ORCID is designed for the researcher community. The organization works across all of these boundaries to provide a registry for individuals or their organizations to create identifiers and manage ORCID records.

3.0   Benefits of Using ORCID: ORCID gives following benefits to researchers, editors, publishers, institutes, universities, funding bodies etc.

    a) **Credit:**Itgives full credit to researchers for their work.

    b) **Unique Identity:** It provides researchers the facility to establish and maintain their scholarly identity.

    c) **Collaboration System:**The ORCID system is based on collaboration amongst publishers, universities, funding agencies/bodies, researchers, and other stakeholders in scholarly communications.

    d) **Security**: The researcher controls what data are linked and what data are publicly viewable.

    e) **Privacy:**The researchersare allowed to decide, which of their data they want to make publicly available.

    f) **Citations:** ORCID iDs can reorganize to identify researcher's publications to track their citations, calculate h-index, or create a bio sketch for funding agencies.

    g) **Bibliography:** Compiling accurate bibliographies via ORCID

    h) **Improve discoverability** –ORCID can ensure that research activities and outputs are easily discoverable.

    i) **Save time:**Managing the detection of duplicate records and reduce repetitive data entry**.**

    j) **Researchers: Facility** will avoid having to enter biographical and bibliographic data in multiple systems.

    k) **Track, Evaluate and Generate Report:** It is a useful toolto track, evaluate and generate the research report outputs of researchers for universities, funders, publishers and institutions.

    l) **Publication list:**It helps researchers to compile and track their publications and other research products.

4.0   Applications of ORCID's used at Universities: Various universitiesare think about particular areas, where ORCID could be useful and recognized.They see many opportunities for utilizing the ORCID service. It is an opportunity to exploit the power of ORCID as a globally ID.

    a) **University of Glasgow and University College London:** Both universities use

       ORCID to support researchers and provide information about their publications and research outputs. This goes in their repository and is then re-used for reporting to Research Council UK' research outcome systems, in staff profiles and to facilitate transfer of information about researchers' publications when they move organization.

    b) **University of Kent:** ORCID could help University of Kent to identify and bring in

information about visiting professors, project collaborators,staff's outputs and achievements to their systems.

c) **University of Canberra:** The University Research Committee has mandated ORCID

as the unique persistent researcher identifier to be used by the University of Canberra.

d) **University of Tasmania:**All researchers, including staff and HDR candidates at the

University of Tasmania are expected to create and maintain an ORCID as their priority identifieraccount.

5.0   **Challenges:** ORCID has the following challenges as given below.

i.   Many research institutions do not understand the practical applications of ORCID

ii.   Several academics have never heard of ORCID.

iii.   ORCID is targeting active researchers not to assigning any authors.

iv.   Generally does not recognize duplicate publication records well at the moment.

v.   Difficult task of coordinating a very large group of stakeholders to build a global system of unique author identifiers.

vi.   The ORCID organization will be run by a small number of staff and is relying on voluntary work from participating organizations and the use of open source software wherever possible.

vii.   ORCID is not for profit. It is charitable organization, but building and maintaining a global author identifier service is still expensive.

viii.   No citation metrics available.

Conclusion: Use of ORCIDto reduce the name ambiguity problem in research and scholarly communication and also improve discoverability. It is quick and easy to know, who should be credited for what.Identifying the best approaches for tracking author productivity and research impact, as well as enhancing opportunities for multidisciplinary research collaborations. ORCID resolve authorship name confusion in digital collections of publications or databases and assign unique , persistent identifiers and manages records of researchers and their research activities including scholarly works, affiliations, funding and the benefit of all stakeholders, including research institutions, funding organizations, publishers, and researchers themselves. It is the need author's to use ORCID to increase the research impact.Academic institutions and R&D organizations should encourage a culture of ORCID and strengthen relationships with faculty members, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, university administrators, researchers and other research support staff. They could create ORCID online tutorials and resource guides and raising awareness of this system training and services to them.They could lead campus wide efforts to

promote the use of ORCID and helping researchers claim and use their ORCID iDs. Library and Information Science (LISc) professionals are also aware to compile accurate bibliographies via ORCID.Indirectly it is a key research support service provided by LISc professionals. The success of ORCID will be achieved only, when the increase global registry for unique author identifier.

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