

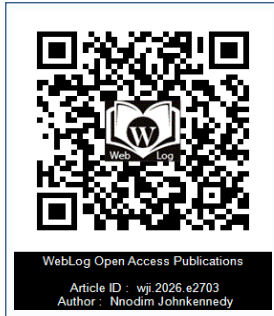


ORCID: A Necessary Digital ID for University Lecturers and Researchers in the 21st Century

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Abstract

As scholarly communication becomes more digital, it is important to have dependable mechanisms for finding researchers and connecting them to their work. The Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID) are a permanent digital ID that sets researchers apart and makes sure that scholarly work is correctly credited. This paper looks at how important ORCID is for researchers and university teachers. It talks about how it can help with visibility, clear up name confusion, and make research management better. The amalgamation of ORCID with platforms like VeriXiv is also examined. The paper used a narrative review methodology to elucidate the principal advantages, institutional ramifications, problems, and future possibilities associated with ORCID adoption. The results emphasise the significance of ORCID as a fundamental element of contemporary academic identity systems.

Keywords: ORCID; Researcher Identification; Academic Publication; Digital Scholarship

Introduction

Digital scholarship is changing the way research is made, shared, and judged all across the world. In today's academic world, when exposure, citation, and collaboration are key to career progress, it's more crucial than ever to correctly identify researchers. However, using names as identifiers has not worked well because of duplicates, different spellings, transliteration between languages, and alterations that happen for personal or cultural reasons. These problems have made it hard for researchers to connect with their own work. The Open Researcher and Contributor ID was created to solve this problem. It is a unique and long-lasting digital identification that sets researchers apart and links them to their academic work.

ORCID is a standardised identity system for people who do research, scholarship, and new ideas. It gives each registered user a 16-digit alphanumeric code that makes sure their academic work is correctly credited, even if their name is identical to someone else's or their institution changes. ORCID is like the Digital Object Identifier in that it permanently identifies the authors of scientific works like journal articles and datasets [1].

In a research world that is becoming more digital and connected, this dual framework makes academic communication more honest, easier to follow, and faster. One of the best things about ORCID is that it gets rid of name confusion. In many places of the world, like Nigeria and other underdeveloped countries, some names are very common. This makes it hard to tell one researcher from another in academic databases. When researchers publish under alternative name formats or change their names over time, this situation gets even worse [2]. ORCID fixes these problems by giving each person a unique ID that stays the same throughout their career. Consequently, all scholarly outputs linked to a researcher can be precisely pooled and ascribed, enhancing the trustworthiness of bibliometric analyses and academic evaluations [3].

ORCID not only helps with identification issues, but it also makes research results more easier to find and see. In the competitive world of academic publishing, being seen is important for getting more citations, working with others, and getting research funding. Researchers can make a complete and easy to find record of their academic achievements by linking all of their papers, datasets, peer reviews, and affiliations to a single ORCID profile [4]. This centralised profile acts as a digital resume that is always up to date, so you don't have to keep writing down the same information over and over again. Research indicates that scholars who uphold extensive internet presence often get enhanced

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reputation and influence in their disciplines [5].

One more great thing about ORCID is that it gives users a lot of control over their personal and professional information. ORCID is different from many other digital platforms because it lets researchers choose what information is made public, what is shared with trusted organisations, and what stays private. This flexibility lets users find a balance between privacy and openness, which helps ease worries about data security and misuse. Also, researchers can update their ORCID profiles at any moment, which helps them keep accurate and up-to-date records of their work.

The use of ORCID into academic workflows has expanded its significance in contemporary studies. Many publishers, funding organisations, and institutions now mandate or highly suggest that authors use ORCID identifiers when they submit an article, apply for a grant, or report on their work. By automatically filling in researcher information, this connection makes administrative procedures easier and cuts down on mistakes and time spent [6]. ORCID also makes it easier for different systems to work together, so data can move easily between platforms. When combined with platforms like VeriXiv, ORCID makes sure that activities like authoring and peer review are automatically connected to a researcher's profile. This not only makes academic work more visible, but it also makes the research process more open and accountable [7].

University professors can get a lot out of ORCID. To get promoted, get accredited, or apply for grants, academic personnel generally have to keep extensive records of their research results. Keeping these documents by hand can take a lot of time and make mistakes. ORCID makes this easier by giving you a dynamic and verifiable record of your academic achievements that you can simply access and share. Also, institutions can use ORCID data to better manage research, keep track of productivity, and make themselves more visible around the world. Universities that use ORCID as part of their research infrastructure are more likely to do well in international rankings and get funding [8].

Even though ORCID has many benefits, there are still some problems with using it. One of the main problems is that researchers, especially in underdeveloped areas, don't know enough about it. A lot of academics don't know much about ORCID or how it may help them. This lack of information can make it hard for people to use the system widely and make it less successful. Also, some researchers may not want to use new digital tools because they think they are too complicated or are worried about data protection. Another problem is that some profiles are missing or not kept up to date, which might make ORCID data less reliable and valuable [9].

To solve these problems, academic institutions, funding agencies, and legislators all need to work together. To teach staff and students about the value of ORCID, universities should run awareness campaigns and training programs. Institutional policies can also be very important by requiring researchers to register with ORCID and making it a part of research management systems. Also, investments in digital infrastructure are needed to make sure that all academics have the tools and resources they need to use ORCID efficiently [10].

As digital scholarship keeps changing, the need for identity systems that are both dependable and work with each other is likely to grow [11]. Because it is open and not owned by any one company, and because it is widely used in the academic community, ORCID is well-suited to address this need. New technologies like artificial intelligence and big data analytics are going to make ORCID even better by letting researchers analyse their work and its effects in more advanced ways. Also, ORCID's growth into non-academic fields could make it more useful and make it a better universal identification for those who contribute to knowledge [12].

Conclusion

In the 21st century, the Open Researcher and Contributor ID have become an important tool for researchers and university professors. ORCID solves the problems of name ambiguity, makes research more visible, and makes academic workflows easier by giving each person a unique and permanent identification. Its connection to platforms like VeriXiv makes it even more important in today's academic environments. There are still problems with awareness and acceptance, but the benefits of ORCID much outweigh its drawbacks. As the academic community continues to embrace digital transformation, the broad use of ORCID will be very important for making research more open, efficient, and connected around the world.

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