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ScieCom Info (ISSN: 1652-3202)

Citation for the published paper:

Gilbert, J. (2013) "A Start for Implementing ORCID in the Swedish Research Information Infrastructure". ScieCom Info, vol. 9(2), pp. 2013.

Downloaded from: <http://publications.lib.chalmers.se/publication/178945>

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A START FOR IMPLEMENTING ORCID IN THE SWEDISH RESEARCH INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Jonas Gilbert

In 2012, the Royal Library in Sweden funded a project to investigate questions and possibilities in connection to author identifiers. The project had the title Author Identifiers and Publications Databases, the project group was led by Stockholm University Library and it also included the libraries from Chalmers, Karolinska Institutet and Malmö University.

The aim was to identify current initiatives, to initiate a discussion what development and challenges the issue of identifiers pose to universities' publication databases, and to provide recommendations for further actions. The project was to take into account both the technical, legal as well as organizational aspects.

One of the activities organized by the project group was a workshop to discuss the potentials for implementing ORCID within the Swedish infrastructure for managing research information. The workshop was held in Stockholm in October, the week before the official launch of the ORCID registry services. ORCID was represented at the workshop by Executive Director Laurel Haak. The Swedish participants were mainly from the university sector, but the Royal Library and the Swedish Research Council also attended. The discussions at the workshop provided a good overview of both the planned roadmap for the ORCID registry as well as the issues concerning the infrastructure in Sweden that would have to be taken into account.

Looking at the management of research information in Sweden today, it is primarily the university sector, the National Library and the Swedish Research Council who are the actors responsible for different parts of the infrastructure. The Royal Library has the responsibility for SwePub, an aggregation service that harvests publication metadata from the publication databases/CRIS-systems managed by the local universities. For most universities, the researchers are mandated to register and maintain their publication performance in these locally supported services. The Research Council, on its part, is developing a new joint grant management system (PRISMA) and has also been assigned the task to run a service that will make research projects financed within the public

sector findable (Sweden ScienceNet /SweCRIS). The Research Council further has the assignment to implement national guiding principles for open access in Sweden. So far, none of these services are able to link the research funding with the research output, and there is currently no ID for persons that could be exchanged between these services.

Against this background, we have in the discussions seen that the ORCID registry services will be very well suited to be adapted as the "key" regarding personal IDs. The project concluded among its recommendations that:

- ORCID should be the standard used for managing author identities in SwePub and the publication databases.
- The Royal Library monitors how ORCID relates to the libraries involvement in VIAF (Virtual International Authority File) and ISNI (International Standard Name Identifier).
- The Royal Library monitors that the implementation of ORCID not should be considered a library issue but as an inter-institutional issue. Involvement will be needed from several participants, both on national as well as on the local level.

The question concerning institutional membership in ORCID was not explicitly addressed by the project. One reason being that ORCID still was developing the membership models. Since the project report was finished, ORCID has for instance presented a consortium model for membership that could be applied at a national level.

So, as can be understood from this description there all still several questions remaining to be addressed whith regard to the responsibility for coordinating the administration and implementation of ORCID on a national level in Sweden. The most recent

development is that the local universities now are implementing support to register ORCID in their human resource management systems and in their publication databases. This will be useful for researchers that already have registered an ORCID. For universities that would want to assist the researchers in creating and maintaining IDs in ORCID, a membership will be required. At Chalmers University of Technology we are currently in the final

stage of becoming members with the aim to start assisting researchers in creating IDs in ORCID within the coming months. A broader awareness among the researchers concerning IDs can be anticipated to take place when the Research Council launches the newly developed grant management platform PRISMA, which also will include the possibility to use IDs from ORCID.

References

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ISNI - <http://www.isni.org/>

ORCID - <http://orcid.org/>

Sweden ScienceNet - <http://www.sciencenet.se/>

SwePub – <http://swepub.kb.se/>

VIAF - <http://viaf.org/>



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