A Metadata Application Profile for ORCID

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Introduction

Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID) is an open, nonprofit, and community-driven effort to prevent name confusion in research and scholarly communities. ORCID distinguishes researchers and contributors by assigning unique researcher identifiers and linking research activities, including scholarly works, affiliations, and funding, to these identifiers.

Purpose and Scope

This study aims to fill the gap between practical uses and conceptual understandings of ORCID metadata. Since the ORCID Message format was primarily developed with API uses in mind, there was a lack of formal documentation describing the structure of ORCID metadata. In this project, a structured description of the metadata provided by ORCID is presented by using the Dublin Core Application Profile as a model.

The ORCID Metadata Application Profile is designed to draw a preliminary conceptual outline for the ORCID Message schema (based on ORCID Message 1.2 release candidate 5) and initiate a productive discussion among the ORCID user community (including end-users, ORCID developers, and API consumers). The documentation will help broaden understanding of the structure and use of registry metadata.

References:

Functional Requirements

- The ORCID is primarily designed to support identification of researchers or contributors, and linking between researchers and their scholarly activities. In addition, the registry supports search function for the researchers listed in the ORCID and for their recorded scholarly activities.

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<tr>
<th>Functional Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>i. Identification</td>
<td>Of known researchers and/or contributors</td>
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<td>ii-a. Linking</td>
<td>Between ORCID identifiers and other current researcher identifier schemes</td>
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<tr>
<td>ii-b. Linking</td>
<td>Between ORCID identifiers and the researchers' scholarly activities (i.e., works, affiliations, and funding)</td>
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<tr>
<td>iii. Search</td>
<td>For registered researchers and/or contributors</td>
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Domain Model

This section depicts a simple entity-relationship model that ORCID metadata describes. The model only represents researchers and their scholarly activities. Knowledge of Unified Modeling Language (UML) class diagram notation is required to read and understand this domain model.

References:

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