



Connecting Research
and Researchers

2013 Annual Report

| | |
|---|-----------|
| WHO WE ARE | 2 |
| MISSION, VALUES, AND VISION | 2 |
| A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | 3 |
| LETTER FROM THE CHAIR | 3 |
| 2013 ORCID BOARD | 5 |
| 2013 ORCID STAFF | 5 |
| HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013 | 6 |
| EVALUATING PROGRESS | 7 |
| VISITORS | 7 |
| REGISTRANTS | 8 |
| MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS | 9 |
| INTEGRATIONS | 10 |
| SERVING THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY | 11 |
| OUTREACH MEETINGS | 11 |
| RESOURCES FOR ANSWERING USER QUESTIONS | 11 |
| DISCIPLINARY CONFERENCES | 12 |
| ADOPTION AND INTEGRATION PROGRAM | 12 |
| AMBASSADOR PROGRAM | 13 |
| PRESENTATIONS AND PRESS | 14 |
| ENCOURAGING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION | 15 |
| COMMUNITY GROUPS | 15 |
| OPEN SOURCE COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS | 15 |
| CODEFEST | 15 |
| SHARING DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS | 16 |
| SHARING PUBLIC DATA | 16 |
| SUPPORTING MEMBERS | 17 |



| | |
|---|-----------|
| CREATING A SUSTAINABLE ORGANIZATION: MEMBERSHIP POLICIES | 17 |
| MEMBER SUPPORT AND SERVICES | 18 |
| NEW FEATURES | 19 |
| INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS | 20 |
| FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS | 21 |
| LETTER FROM THE TREASURER | 21 |
| RECOGNITION OF SPONSORS | 22 |

Who We Are

Mission, Values, and Vision

ORCID is an independent non-profit organization with an international and interdisciplinary scope.

Our core mission is providing a registry of persistent identifiers for researchers, and to ensure adoption of these identifiers by working with the research community to embed them in research workflows such as grant applications and manuscript submissions.

ORCID was founded on the fundamental principle of openness, and to this end we make the registry available for free to researchers; publish our code, APIs, documentation, and an annual public data file on our website; and provide a free Sandbox server for the community to test integration approaches.

Our goal is international adoption of ORCID identifiers by the research community—researchers and the organizations involved in supporting research—to connect research and researchers, end name ambiguity issues, and transform the research and scholarly ecosystem.

A Message from the Executive Director



In 2013, ORCID moved from a demonstrator to a stable system used by close to half a million researchers. During the year, a number of integrations were launched that supported the visibility and adoption of ORCID identifiers by the community, including association with external identifiers including ResearcherID and Scopus; [embedding in many manuscript submission systems](#), discussions about national adoption, the [collection of ORCID iDs by research funders](#), the [creation of ORCID records by universities](#), embedding in [data](#) and [publication repositories](#), and collection and display of ORCID identifiers by external systems.

What a year! ORCID closed the year with over 470,000 registrants and 110 members, a 10-fold increase over 2012. We have users in every country and territory, and members on every continent. Some highlights from the year include [posting ORCID code on an open-source repository](#), hosting our first [CodeFest](#), [receiving funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for the Adoption and Integration program](#), making the [Registry available in 4 additional languages](#), launching the [Ambassador program](#), and getting the [affiliation module](#) up and running. Thank you to everyone for your commitment and participation!

Letter from the Chair



2013 was a momentous year for ORCID with the organization growing rapidly and building on the foundation put in place over the last few years. The ORCID registry launched at the end of 2012 and we finished 2013 with over 470,000 registrants and growth accelerating. ORCID rolled out its membership model and ended 2013 with 110 members – well on the way to sustainability and ensuring that ORCID remains an open, independent, international organization.

Laure highlights the main milestones for ORCID in her letter – and there are a lot of them! A few of the key ones for me are the launch of the affiliation model at the end of the year, the posting of the ORCID code on an open-source repository and the revision of ORCID's membership agreements and categories based on feedback from members and prospective members. Each of these three milestones reveals some deeper truths about ORCID. The launch of the affiliation model shows that the ORCID system is being updated and improved on an ongoing basis to make it more valuable (major changes have been made to the ORCID system “under the hood” to make it more efficient and easier to use). The posting of the ORCID code shows that ORCID is adhering to its [founding principles](#) on openness. The revisions to the membership agreements and categories show that ORCID is listening its constituents and is focused on building a self-sustaining organization that will be around for the long term.



ORCID has been so successful to date due to the hard work and commitment of many people. Laure Haak, Executive Director, has put a [great team](#) in place and I would like to thank Laure and the team for their hard work in 2013. I would also like to thank the [Board of Directors](#) for their ongoing work in steering ORCID in the right direction and making sure it is financially stable.

In January 2013 Howard Ratner stepped down as the founding Chair of the ORCID Board (but luckily stayed on the Board as past-Chair). Howard was the driving force in getting the ORCID initiative started and turning it into an independent organization. I want to take this opportunity to thank Howard for his huge contributions to ORCID. At the end of 2013 ORCID learned that two founding directors would be leaving the board. Dave Kochalko has served as ORCID's Treasurer since its formation in 2010 and Howard's partner in getting ORCID started in the early stages. Dave played a crucial role in developing ORCID's budgets and business, financial and strategic plans. Amy Brand was involved with ORCID in the early stages and played a key role in developing ORCID's principles, membership model and outreach plans. She has been on the board from the start, and was founding Chair of the Outreach Steering Group, a position she will continue in.

ORCID has been successful in 2013 but we've got big plans for 2014 and there is still a lot of work to do. I'm looking forward to another exciting year.



2013 ORCID Board

ORCID is governed by an elected Board of Directors, comprised of fourteen ORCID members, a majority of whom represent non-profit organizations. The Board is responsible for establishing general policies for the governance of ORCID, based on a set of [core principles](#) among them openness and transparency. In addition to the Board of Directors, in 2013 ORCID formalized [Steering Groups](#), open to the research community, focused on gathering input on business, technical, and outreach matters.

Liz Allen, Wellcome Trust
Micah Altman, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Amy Brand, Harvard University
Craig Van Dyck, Wiley-Blackwell
Laurel Haak (Secretary), ORCID Executive Director, *ex officio*
Thomas Hickey, Online Computer Library Center (OCLC)
Veronique Kiermer, Nature Publishing Group
David Kochalko (ORCID Co-Founder and Treasurer), Thomson Reuters
Salvatore Mele, CERN
Ed Pentz (Chair), CrossRef
Howard Ratner, ORCID Co-Founder and Past Chair
Bernard Rous, Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)
Chris Shillum, Elsevier
Hideaki Takeda, National Institute of Informatics (NII)
Todd Vision, Researcher representative
Simeon Warner, Cornell University Library

2013 ORCID Staff

ORCID is a distributed organization. ORCID Inc. staff contributes from locations around the US. Our EU affiliate ORCID EU has two staff members in Europe, supported by the [ODIN](#) grant from the European Commission FP7 Programme. Late in 2012, we expanded our team to include in-house software development and technical support expertise. We brought on our Director of Community and Office Manager in 2013.

Eleese Bohannon-Scott, Office Manager
Rebecca Bryant, Director of Community
Martin Fenner, ORCID EU (until 8/2013)
Laurel Haak, Executive Director
Catalina Oyler, Technical Support and Writing
Laura Paglione, Technical Director
Rob Peters, Lead Developer
Gudmundur (Mummi) Thorisson, ORCID EU



Highlights of 2013

January: Enabled faster site updates, improved developer testing Sandbox, [shared our development schedule](#)

February: [Released ORCID code under MIT-style open source license](#)

March: [Added support to link ORCID record with multiple email addresses](#)

April: ORCID hosts its first booth at European Geophysical Union annual meeting in Vienna; implemented Google Analytics event tracking to support premium member reporting; [enhanced technical documentation](#) to support multiple integrator perspectives

May: [Launched Webhooks and premium member reports](#) and hosted our first [CodeFest](#)

June: Announced the [Sloan-funded Adoption and Integration program](#)

July: Launched the ORCID [Ambassador program](#)

August: [Launched site in 4 new languages](#), [welcomed the 250,000th registrant](#)

September: [Announced A&I awardees](#)

October: [Celebrated the 1-year anniversary of the ORCID Registry](#); [posted the first annual public data file](#), [universities started creating ORCID records](#)

November: Signed on our 100th member; welcomed our 400,000th registrant

December: [Launched affiliation module](#)

ORCID

Evaluating Progress

The core goal of ORCID is to connect research with researchers across disciplines, organizations, and countries. We address this fundamental need of the research community by providing a registry of unique and persistent identifiers for researchers.

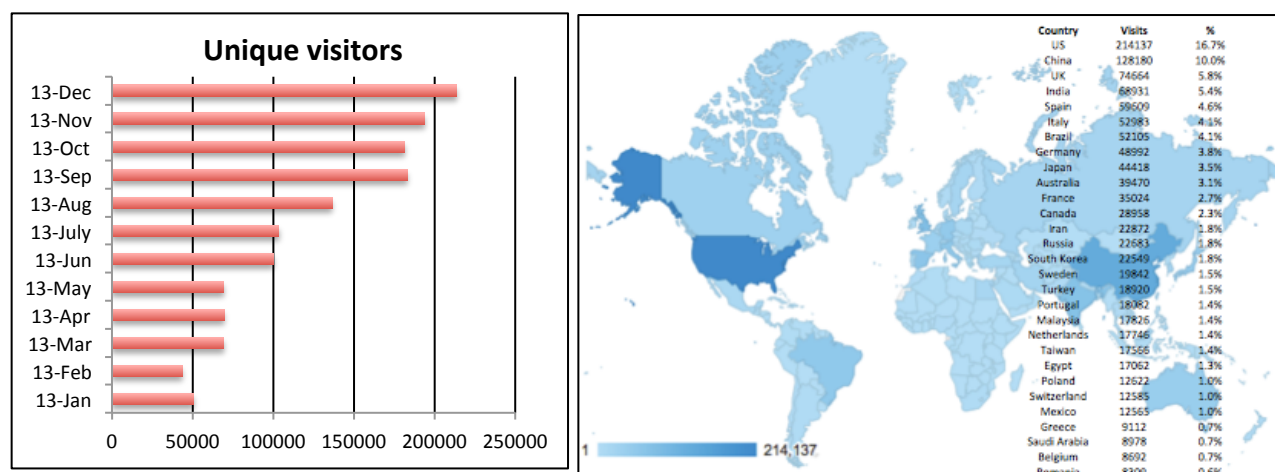
Our vision is a world where:

- researchers and contributors are uniquely identified using ORCID iDs
- researchers and contributors are reliably linked with their research
- the community is confident with the ORCID service and uses it on a regular basis.

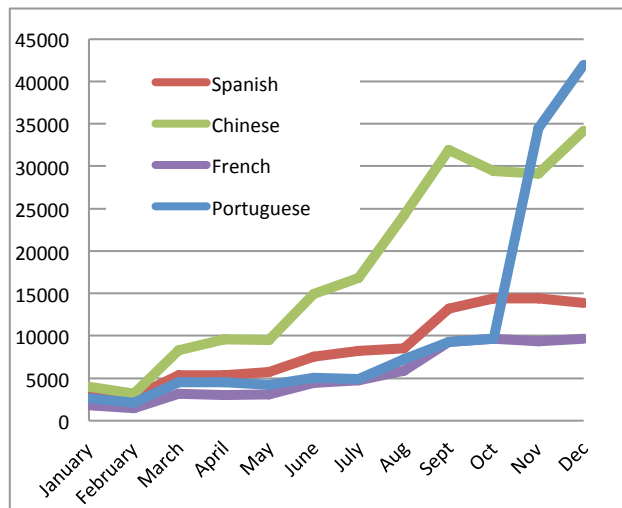
To determine progress toward that vision, we are measuring adoption of ORCID identifiers by researchers and organizations. We actively collect feedback from users through forums and one-on-one interactions including our Outreach meetings and trade-show booths. We've made registration data available on the ORCID Website, updated on a weekly basis. We analyze usage and tracking data on a monthly basis, and present quarterly reports to the ORCID Board.

Visitors

1.41 million unique users visited the ORCID Registry in 2013. About a third of visits were generated from users coming directly to the orcid.org site. Half of visits were referred by ORCID member sites, and 15% were referred by search engines and social methods (email, blogs, tweets, etc.). There has been steadily increasing use of the Registry internationally. We can measure this in two ways. Using Google Analytics, we see that the ORCID Registry receives traffic from most countries, including 32 countries with over 10,000 visitors (up from 25 in September), and 81 countries with > 1000 visitors (up from 66).

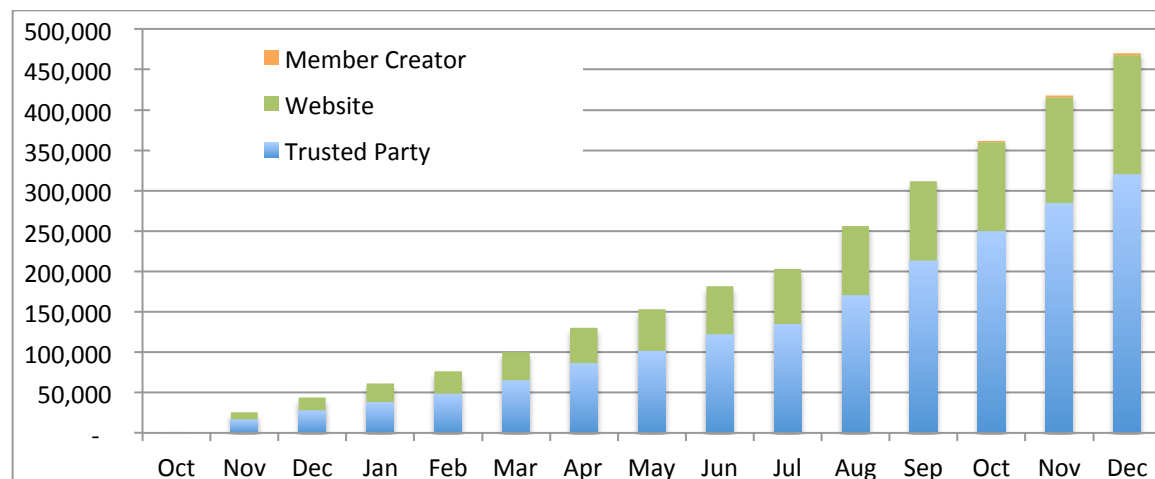


We also measure visits by browser language settings. In August, we provided translations of the Registry and several other webpages into Chinese (simplified and traditional), French, and Spanish, and saw a subsequent increase in page traffic from these language groups. In November, FCT, the national research funding body in Portugal, launched a campaign to register all of their funded researchers. In about 3 weeks, over 40,000 Portuguese researchers had registered for an ORCID iD, clearly indicated by the page traffic report.



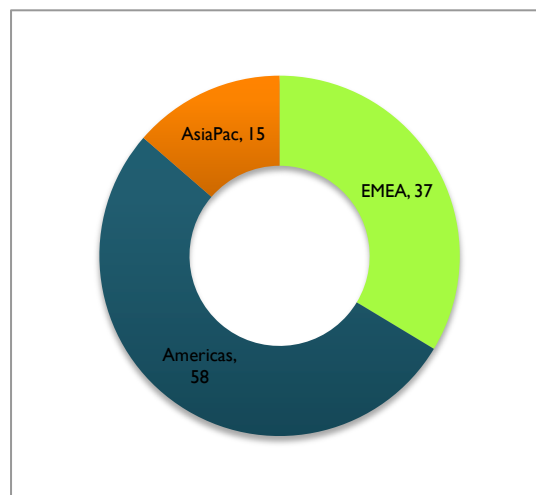
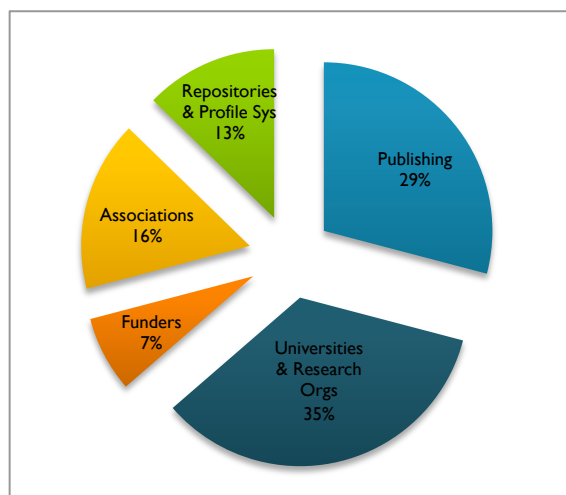
Registrants

By the end of December, 470,000 researchers had registered for an ORCID identifier, very close to our ambitious goal of 500,000. This is a tenfold increase over December 2012. Consistently, about one-third of registrations are from researchers coming directly to the Website (top/green in the chart below), and two-thirds from an interaction with an ORCID member integration workflow (bottom/blue), such as asking for an ORCID iD during manuscript submission. Of the member interactions, the majority of new registrations come through manuscript or repository workflows. Beginning in August, registrations started coming through grant application workflows from Wellcome Trust and the US National Institutes of Health. Universities also have started creating records for their faculty and staff (orange). Boston University and Chalmers University of Technology launched their integrations in September, and by the end of October had created over 1800 ORCID records. A number of other universities are well on the way to creating records and are expecting to launch by IQ 2014, including Hong Kong University, Carlos III de Madrid, Universidad de Zaragoza, University of Michigan, and NYU Langone Medical Center.



Members and Subscribers

By the end of 2013, ORCID had welcomed 83 new members and subscribers, for a total of 110. Our members are from a broad cross-section of the international research community. About one-third of our members are universities or research organizations, another third is the publishing community, 16% are associations, 13% are repositories or researcher information systems, and 7% are funders. About half of our members are US-based, a third are in Europe, Middle East, or Africa; and about a fifth are in Asia or Pacific Rim countries.



| | |
|--|---|
| Publishing | AIP Publishing, AIRITI, Aries, Atlas, Cactus, Copernicus, EBSCO, Elsevier, EDP Sciences, eJournal Press, eLife, Epistemo, Flooved, Hindawi, Infra-M Academic Publishing, Jnl Bone and Joint Surgery, Karger, Landes Bioscience, National Academy of Sciences, Nature, Oxford University Press, Peerage of Science, PLOS, RNAi, ScienceOpen, Springer, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, Wolters Kluwer |
| Associations | American Astronomical Soc, American Chemical Soc, ACSESS, AAAS, American Geophysical Union, American Mathematical Soc, American Psychological Assn, American Physical Soc, American Soc Microbiology, American Soc Civil Engineers, Assn Computing Machinery, Electrochemical Society, IEEE, IOP, Modern Language Assn, OSA, Royal Soc Chemistry, Soc Neuroscience |
| Funders | Autism Speaks, US Department of Energy, US Food and Drug Administration, Japan Science and Technology Agency, Qatar National Research Foundation, US National Institutes of Health, UK National Institute of Health Research, Wellcome Trust |
| Universities and Research Organizations | Boston Univ, CalTech, Cambridge Univ, Chalmers Univ Technology, Charles Darwin Univ, Chinese Academy of Sciences Library, CERN, Cornell Univ, EMBL (EBI), FHCRC, Glasgow Univ, Harvard Univ, IFPRI, KACST, KISTI, MIT, MSKCC, National Institute of Informatics, National Taiwan Univ College of Medicine, National Taiwan Normal Univ, NYU Langone Medical Center, Oxford University, Purdue Univ, Riga Technical Univ, SUNY-Stonybrook, Texas A&M Univ, Univ. Cádiz, Univ Carlos III de Madrid, Univ Oviedo, Univ Zaragoza, Univ College London, Univ Hong Kong, Univ Kansas, Univ Manchester, Univ Michigan, Univ Missouri, Univ Politécnica Madrid, Univ Washington |
| Repositories and Profile Systems | Altmetric, Association of Users of Ukrainian Research and Academic Network, Australian National Data Service, AVEDAS, British Library, Copyright Clearance Center, CrossRef, DataCite, F1000 Research, Faculty of 1000, figshare, Impact Story, Knode, OCLC, PubMed Europe (EBI), Symplectic, Thomson Reuters, Überresearch |



Integrations

Clearly, integration by ORCID members is a key component of adoption by the research community. Of our members, about half have launched integrations. We've created a [webpage with more information on member integrations](#), including an overview integration chart showing the types of integrations and a page listing integrations and links to slides and sample code. In addition to manuscript submission workflows and grant application workflows, ORCID identifiers are being integrated into data repository uploads, for example by DataCite and the Australian National Data Service. Universities are not only creating records, but are working to link ORCID identifiers to library repositories, graduate student electronic dissertations, faculty and staff onboarding processes, and to directories and personnel systems. Providers of metrics are integrating ORCID identifiers into their offerings to support ease of use. We have had conversations with a number of groups about national ORCID adoption, with Portugal launching their initiative in November. There are also community conversations about how and whether to use ORCID to support acknowledgement of peer review service.

Engagement of the research community is essential to the success of ORCID. We work with the community directly, through online media, and by creating new venues for interactions. In 2013 we launched the Adoption and Integration program to encourage engagement by universities, we initiated the Ambassador program and we launched translated Webpages to increase our reach internationally.

Outreach meetings

ORCID supported two Outreach meetings in 2013. These meetings are free and open to the public, and provide an opportunity for ORCID to communicate status and plans, and to listen to the community.

In [May](#) we hosted a meeting at St. Anne's College in Oxford, England. This meeting was coordinated with the JISC [Now and Future of Data Publishing](#). ORCID partnered with Dryad to host the afternoon [Symposium on Research Attribution](#), and we hosted a CodeFest focusing on mashups with the ORCID API (see p. 15). Over 140 people attended the Outreach meeting, with keynote presentations by Johanna McEntyre of Europe PubMed Central and David De Roure of the Oxford eResearch Centre.

In [October](#), we hosted a meeting at the American Geophysical Union building in Washington DC, USA. This meeting focused on developing best practices for integration of ORCID identifiers into research workflows. The meeting opened with updates on ORCID registrations and memberships, integrations, and technical plans and provided opportunities to interact with ORCID staff. The morning panel opened a discussion about integration of ORCID identifiers by publishers, research funders, and professional societies, leading into afternoon working sessions that focused on workflows and use cases for these stakeholder groups. Working session participants discussed current workflows, explored opportunities for embedding ORCID identifiers, and identified gaps and next steps for the research community. Meeting products include documentation of workflows, integration points, and recommendations for best practices.

Contact Us

We look forward to hearing from you. Please use the form below to help us deliver your request to the correct person.

Resources for Answering User Questions

As an organization founded upon open principles, ORCID has worked to make materials and personnel accessible to support use of the Registry. Our [Support Desk](#) responded to 4323 member and user requests in 2013. Users may also suggest and vote on new features through the ORCID iDeas Forum.

The screenshot shows a web interface with a light green border. On the left, there is a 'Knowledge Base' section with a 'browse articles' link. It lists four articles: 'Register for an ORCID ID' (Introduction You can register for an ORCID...), 'Number of ORCID IDs' (The following chart shows the number of ...), 'Closing an ORCID Account' (FAQ about Closing an ORCID Account If L...), and 'Retrieving Data with the Public API' (Overview The purpose of the Query API L...). Below this is a 'Feedback' section with a 'browse ideas' link. It features a light green box with a lightbulb icon, the text 'Remove duplicates, the find publicati...', and a status bar showing 'STARTED', '700 votes', and '25 comments'. On the right, there is a 'Contact support' button with an envelope icon, followed by 'or' and a 'Give iDeas' button with a lightbulb icon. Below these are three input fields: 'Message subject', 'Help Area' (with a dropdown arrow), and 'How can we help you today?'. There is an 'Attach a File' link with a paperclip icon. At the bottom, there is a 'Your email address' input field and a 'Send message' button.

Disciplinary Conferences

To interact directly with researchers, ORCID started to host booths at disciplinary meetings. These meetings provided staff the opportunity to provide information to researchers and vendors, to register new users, and to gather feedback from Registry users:

- **April:** European Geophysical Union, Vienna (generously sponsored by Copernicus)
- **June:** European Society of Human Genomics, Paris (joint booth with Gen2Phen)
- **July:** International Society of Scientometrics and Informetrics, Vienna
- **November:** Society for Neuroscience, San Diego
- **December:** American Geophysical Union, San Francisco



Adoption and Integration Program

Funded by the [Alfred P. Sloan Foundation](#), the ORCID [Adoption and Integration Program](#) provides external funding for universities and associations to integrate ORCID identifiers, supports the collaborative elicitation and documentation of use cases and open source code, and establishes a collaborative venue for disseminating best practices. Twenty organizations responded to the [RFP](#), and the following nine projects were awarded grants:



- **Boston University**, to directly integrate ORCID into the upcoming release of Profiles, available to 30+ institutions using this researcher profile platform; expand adoption beyond faculty to postdocs, graduate students and undergrads; and establish a Wiki to support ORCID resource sharing.
- **Cornell University**, for integration into the VIVO open source researcher profiling system, first at Cornell and then in VIVO source code available to other VIVO users.
- **University of Notre Dame**, for integration of ORCID identifiers into the UND Institutional Repository (IR) and creation of a Hydra ORCID Integrator Plug-in that can be re-used by any Project Hydra institution implementing the Hydra stack/Fedora Commons open source IR tool.
- **Purdue University**, for integration of ORCID identifiers into HUBzero open source platform for supporting research collaboration, including research data life cycle management, open educational resources, and data archival and citation support. The integration will be piloted on three different HUBzero instances: nanoHUB, the Purdue University Research Repository (PURR), and HABRI Central and integration source code will be available to the other 50+ institutions using HUBzero.

- **Reactome**, for integration of ORCID identifiers into an international biological pathways knowledge base data center.
- **Society for Neuroscience**, for integration of ORCID identifiers into its Association Management System (AMS) (Personify) to support management of information about its 42,000 members.
- **Texas A&M University**, for integrating ORCID identifiers into the open source Vireo electronic theses and dissertations (ETD) workflow, the university's digital repository, and the internally-used VIVO profile system. TAMU will develop outreach materials for graduate students and postdoctoral researchers and will disseminate project outcomes to the ETD and repository communities.
- **University of Colorado**, for integration of ORCID identifiers into their Faculty information System (FIS) to support access and reporting at CUBoulder and CU-Colorado Springs; support the FIS publication data ingest process using Symplectic Elements and other sources; and share ORCID iDs through SPARQL endpoint with the American Psychological Association.
- **University of Missouri**, for integration of ORCID identifiers into the DSpace open source institutional repository application (in collaboration with @mire) and the UM MOSpace institutional repository, and for development and testing of graduate student outreach materials.

ORCID Organization

@ORCID_Org

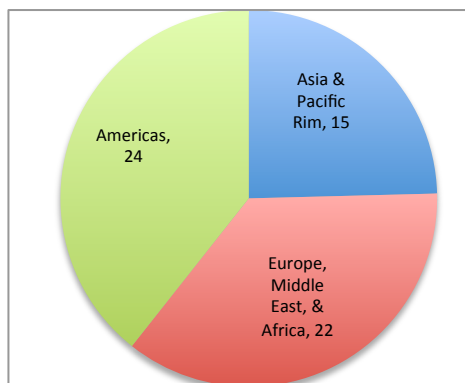
Learn more about Texas A&M's efforts to create ORCID iDs for faculty, staff, and grad students, bit.ly/1b3D1ad

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Grantees began their ORCID integration projects in Fall 2013, meet regularly via teleconference, and all will be sharing prototypes of their systems at the May 2014 Outreach Meeting in Chicago.

Ambassador Program

ORCID launched its Ambassador program in July. ORCID [Ambassadors](#) are a diverse cadre of organizations and individuals who encourage the adoption and use of ORCID identifiers. Ambassadors hail from over twenty countries and include organizations, researchers, faculty and university administration, librarians, funders, and association and publishing professionals. Their outreach efforts have included:



- Organizing and leading presentations
- Translating resources
- Posting blogs and information on social media sites
- Posting flyers and sharing information on listservs
- Educating friends and colleagues
- Providing community feedback
- Displaying their iD on email, CV, and Website
- Encouraging their organization to adopt ORCID
- Sharing information about their institution's ORCID integration with the community



Presentations and Press

ORCID staff, board members, and volunteers presented on ORCID at numerous meetings and Webinars in 2013, including the American Geophysical Union, the American Library

ORCID Organization

@ORCID_Org

Check it out! @ORCID_Org content was among the top 1% of most viewed on SlideShare in 2013, slideshare.net/ORCIDSlides

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Association, Association of Research Managers and Administrators, Association of Southeastern Research Libraries, Avedas Users Meeting, CASRAI ReConnect, CESSE, Charleston Conference, CIC, Council for Networked Information, Council of Science Editors,

CrossRef
User Group
Meeting,

DataCite Summer Meeting, European Commission, European Geophysical Union, eJournal Press Users Meeting, Allen Press Users Meeting, Federal Demonstration Partnership, Federated Identity Management 4R, Human Frontiers Science Programme, Japan Library Fair, IASSist, Internet Identify Workshop, iPRES, ISMTE, ISSI, JISC Researcher Identifier Working Group, Knowledge Exchange, OAI8, ODIN, Pacific Rim Digital Library Alliance, PKP, Research Data Alliance, Riga Technical University, Society for Neuroscience, Society for Scholarly Publishing, a [tour of Spain](#), UKSG, UMetrics, and VIVO.

Print Collateral and Outreach Resources

In 2013 we developed trade show displays, flyers, bookmarks, one-page fact sheets, and purchased ORCID “swag” to help attractively promote the adoption and integration of ORCID identifiers. ORCID volunteers are working to translate these resources to further support global outreach efforts.

Social Media



Throughout the year, we have been posting blogs on policy, outreach, and technical developments. These are available on our [news page](#), which has over 600 subscribers, and on the @ORCID_org twitter account, where we more than doubled our followers to 3000 during 2013. The ORCID posts are regularly re-posted and re-tweeted, and since the Registry was launched have been generating new registrations. Since launch, the blogs, tweets, and other social media outlets have generated substantial traffic to the ORCID Registry, and have also provided useful feedback from the community.





Encouraging Community Participation

ORCID's principals of openness are embedded in the way that we encourage community participation. During 2013, we launched several important initiatives to share the work that we are doing, and encourage community participation.

Community Groups

We launched two types of formal groups composed of members of the community, steering groups and working groups. Steering groups provide guidance to the Executive Director on Business, Outreach, and Technical topics. During 2013, the steering groups provided advice and recommendations on several topics including membership models, outreach strategies, technical strategic topics, and the further engagement of the community in working groups. Working groups advise on specific topics of tactical and strategic importance. In 2013, working groups provided insights and written recommendations on [metadata for works](#) stored in ORCID Records, and the [handling of multiple assertions](#) within an ORCID Record (recommendation in 2014). During 2013, 58 people participated in steering and working groups from all parts of the research community.

Members of the community also participated in our online listservs and forums including the API Users Group, an Industry-specific Affinity Group, or the Technical Community Group. There are currently over 300 individuals participating in these forums.

Open Source Community Contributions

Individuals participated in the [ORCID Open Source Community](#) at various levels of engagement, from providing feedback and ideas at the ORCID iDeas forum to contributing code to the open source repository. In 2013, over 2,100 people participated in the ORCID iDeas forum, providing suggestions, commenting and providing feedback, and voting for the ideas that appeal to them. We received over 450 ideas during 2013, of which 210 were implemented. The five most popular iDeas that were implemented included, 1) improvement in the DOI search & work entry, 2) sorting publications in reverse data order instead of alphabetic order, 3) providing the option to make publications “public” by default, 4) open-sourcing the ORCID code base, and 5) linking to a ResearcherID. In addition to providing iDeas, the Open Source Community also contributed its first [code donations](#) this year. Stian Soiland-Reyes contributed [RDF support for ORCID-FOAF profile](#), and Senator Jeong contributed [Korean translations](#) for the Registry.

Codefest

Developers from the community used the open source code and public APIs during the first [ORCID Codefest](#) held in May in Oxford, UK with 36 participants, and 11 projects. Two projects won a trip to the ODIN meeting at CERN in October, funded by the ODIN Project:

- ISAcreeator - Addition of ORCID iDs/records to the ISAcreeator desktop app (<https://github.com/ISA-tools/ISAcreeator>)
- ORCIDLive – Real-time Google map containing location updates of new and updated ORCID iDs.



Sharing Development Progress

ORCID encourages the community to follow our development progress. Current development tasks and project management are open to the public on our Trello boards (<https://trello.com/orcid2>). Trello is the development team's internal communication tool for work that we do; here, the community can review the items that are next up for development, watch progress toward production, and see the internal conversations that the development team is having on each.

Sharing Public Data

We launched our first public data file on our first-year anniversary. This file contains a snapshot of all public data in the ORCID Registry associated with an ORCID record that was created or claimed by an individual. We publish this file once per year under a Creative Commons CC0 1.0 Universal public domain dedication. This means that, to the extent possible under law, ORCID has waived all copyright and related or neighboring rights to the Public Data File. For more information on the file, see <http://dx.doi.org/10.14454/07243.2013>.

Creating a Sustainable Organization: Membership Policies

The success of ORCID depends on people and organizations throughout the research community using the Registry and embedding ORCID identifiers in external systems. ORCID is committed to working collaboratively with the community to achieve this vision. Consistent with our principles, participation in ORCID is open to any organization in the research community and access for individual researchers is free. In 2013, we added standard agreements for consortia and started to develop policies for national membership. In October we rolled out a new version of our Standard agreement, splitting out Trusted Parties and Creator Members, and updated the member page to provide clearer guidance to prospective members. In 2014, to better support broad adoption and appropriate use of ORCID identifiers, we plan to require registration for use of the Public API and to make available with that API authenticated exchange of ORCID identifiers.





Member Support and Services

In addition to access to the API, ORCID membership includes several other benefits:

- **Welcome orientation meeting** – an orientation webinar for member teams to familiarize themselves with the ORCID environment and the resources available to them. The ORCID support team also provides a customized set of resources based on the member's needs, and assists in making introductions to other members that can provide peer support and assistance.
- **Integration launch user acceptance testing** – prior to the launch of any integration the ORCID support team performs tests to ensure a smooth and error-free launch.
- **Member and technical support** – ORCID provides member support via its knowledge base, and “contact support” features located at support.orcid.org.
- **Member reports** – Members receive a newsletter containing recent news and announcements, and general site analytics on the general adoption of ORCID iDs. Basic members receive these reports twice per year. Premium members receive these resources monthly, including customized analytics reports describing the adoption and use specific to their ORCID integrations.
- **Personalized Member data files** – Members receive a data file containing the public information shared in the Public Data File, and any read-limited information that has been granted to the member by researchers. Premium Members are entitled to this file monthly, and Basic Members can receive it twice a year.
- **Member evangelism** – ORCID highlights member involvement in several ways. We create press releases, blogs, include information on membership and integrations in presentations, and announce via social media.

These integration tools are highly used by ORCID members. During 2013, ORCID provided orientation meetings to 33 members, issued ORCID Sandbox access to over 100 development teams, and 38 integrations were tested and launched. Members consistently praise the completeness and understandability of ORCID API documentation and tutorials.

Tools for Integration

Member integration with the ORCID Registry is an important factor for the success of the relationship. ORCID provides many resources to members to help ensure that they are able to quickly and efficiently take advantage of the benefits of ORCID membership. Members receive several resources:

- **[Introduction to the API](#)** – a 10-step quick-start, guide for all users new to the API.
- **[ORCID Member Integration Guide](#)** – Presentation, tutorials, documentation and code examples for the five most common integrations: 1) Get the user's ORCID iD, 2) Get data from a user's ORCID Record, 3) Let a user import from your system to their ORCID Record, 4) Enable the user to display on their ORCID record a link to themselves on your system, and 5) create ORCID iDs for my employees and associates. Resources are presented for three different audiences: A) the researcher, B) an integration manager, and C) the technical developer.



- **Support knowledge base** - 97 published articles about how the site works, details about the API, tutorials for using the API, coaching for using the site, and reference materials.
- **The ORCID Sandbox** - A full testing environment for developers building integrations. Members may load their own test data without affecting production data, or accidentally sending email to researchers. The sandbox is available to anyone, so it also has been used as an evaluation environment for those considering ORCID membership.
- **OAuth help** - General documentation and other resources to assist those new to standard API security protocol used by ORCID (OAuth 2.0.)
- **Member best practices** – New members benefit greatly from the experiences of other members. During 2013 we started to collect integration details, code samples, and implementation plans from members, and share them on a [Current Integrations](#) page. We also provide an [Integration Chart](#) that includes implementation plans for all members. In 2013 we also hosted our first industry-specific [webinar for publishers](#). This webinar generated huge interest, with 190 registrants from current and prospective members.

New Features

Many significant new features were launched in 2013:

- **Affiliations** – metadata about the education and employment for the researcher
- **Site localization** – translation of site content and workflows into French, Spanish, Traditional Chinese and Simplified Chinese
- **iD deprecation** – someone with two ORCID iDs can deprecate one to point to the other. Anyone accessing the deprecated iD will be redirected to the primary one.
- **Change notification API (Webhooks)** – Premium members may register to receive notifications via the API when something changes on an ORCID Record that they are following.
- **Multiple emails** – researchers may associate any number of emails with their ORCID Record, including past emails. Email addresses in the Registry may only be associated with a single ORCID iD, so adding multiple emails decreases the likelihood of a second iD being created for a researcher.
- **Privacy selector** – researchers may set a default privacy setting for things that are added to their Record, such as Works, Education, and Employment.
- **Improved search & search results** – in early 2013 a search yielded only the top 20 results. Now results are paged, and the search engine has been optimized for better results.
- **User Interface improvements** – responsive design for mobile users was rolled out. Also added were easier management of privacy settings on and deletions of Works, ability to see all stored metadata about works (including the data source for the work), easier interface for importing works, improved privacy selector control, and improved usability.

Infrastructure Developments

In early 2013, we significantly restructured our systems operations management, including server management, system development/ deployment, and infrastructure support. The restructuring included:

- moving development project management and the management of system operations from a vendor to our internal team
- refactoring the server architecture from a complex set of specialized servers to a smaller set of more general servers
- changing our development and deployment processes to continuous development where site enhancements can be released at any time.
- changing the quality assurance (QA) process for releases so that engineers, support and users review pre-releases, rather than siloing this function to a separate team.

System stability increased this year as a result of these changes. We enjoyed 99.80% uptime for the site and APIs, a significant improvement over 2012.

The continuous development processes enabled extremely nimble site development and responsiveness to system issues. For example, the time from bug identification to launched patch decreased from several weeks to several hours with these processes. This rapid response capability significantly decreases the risk and impact of launching new site features, allowing new functionality to be released continuously throughout the year. As a result, the team launched new functionality nearly weekly with updates made [38 \(73%\) of the weeks in 2013](#).

Letter from the Treasurer



Consistent with the accomplishments highlighted in the Executive Director's report, the financial position of ORCID continues to strengthen. While having not yet achieved financial sustainability, current trends point to accomplishing this milestone by 2016. Highlights of the unaudited 2013 financial results on a cash basis include the following:

- (1) The community committed \$900,000 in 2nd-round loan support, complementing \$1.2M in foundational loans, which ideally will provide the bridge to sustaining ORCID services long term.
- (2) Income for the full year totaled \$960,000, including a notable 47% increase of member dues over the prior year.
- (3) Expenses of \$1,482,000 were 27% below the budget, due to controls on hiring staff and reduced reliance upon IT contractors.
- (4) Cash at year-end totaled \$1,216,000, which is sufficient to cover nearly two-thirds of budgeted 2014 operating requirements, with the remainder of costs to be met with membership fees.

Income received in 2013 came from two primary sources: \$715,000 in new member fees and \$195,000 in grant income. Masked in this cash-based view is the Adoption and Integration program funded by a Sloan Foundation grant that totaled \$349k, of which \$154K was awarded in small grants to 9 members of the university and association community. The remaining \$195k is funding staff-based community development initiatives, including an Outreach meeting where awardees will present integration prototypes. There will be much to report next year. Collective efforts to increase new memberships are paying off based on accomplishments from the Outreach and Ambassador programs, with 110 members at year end compared with 27 a year ago. ORCID will begin 2014 with a commitment of \$122,250 in membership fees. This foundation is forecast will increase to \$347,800 by the start of 2015 and to approximately \$840,000 by January 2016.

Operating highlights in 2013 included hiring a new Director of Outreach, posting the first public file of registrants, and introducing a simpler membership agreement in response to community feedback. The primary expenses continue to be for staff and IT contracting for system development, which together represent 74% of ORCID's operating spend. The current staff is comprised of six full time members: Executive Director, Technical Director, Director of Outreach, two technical team members and an administrative/operations coordinator. Efforts to reduce operating expenses for 2013 paid off from deferring staff hires and reducing IT system development costs, which collectively lowered expenses by \$415k. A close eye on expenses and cash will continue in 2014 to hold them in line with income growth.

Recognition of Sponsors

Loans. To ensure sufficient operating capital as we solidified the ORCID system, ORCID led a second-round funding campaign in 2013. We thank the following sponsors for their vision and support (\$50,000 or more):

- Copyright Clearance Center
- CrossRef
- Hindawi Publishing
- IOP Publishing
- Nature Publishing Group
- Oxford University Press
- Royal Society of Chemistry
- Taylor and Francis
- Wiley

Grants. We thank the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for their support of the [ORCID Adoption and Integration program](#). This project is targeted at research universities and institutes and science and social science professional associations, and provides external funding for work to integrate ORCID identifiers, supports the collaborative elicitation and documentation of use cases and open source code, and provides a meeting venue for disseminating best practices.

Meeting Sponsors. To be able to offer our Outreach meetings for no fee, ORCID thanks the following organizations, which helped to sponsor our October meeting:

- Aries
- Aptara
- American Chemical Society Publications
- Symplectic

