Open Contributor and Research ID (ORCID) @ Queen’s Project Charter

Prepared by: Rosarie Coughlan, Courtney Matthews
Date: October 16, 2017

Sponsor: Heather McMullen

Background Information
ORCID is an international, not-for-profit initiative. Its core mission is to provide an open registry of persistent unique identifiers for researchers and to automate linkages to research objects such as publications, datasets, other IDs, grants, and patents.¹

If widely used across the research ecosystem, ORCID offers many improvements that reduce the administrative burden on researchers, enabling them to create a single and ‘authoritative’ source for their CV, maintaining full control and privacy. This ensures that they are correctly attributed for all of their work and reduces the time-consuming process of keeping this information up-to-date in multiple places. In addition, the ORCID identifier is a key component of system-to-system interoperability allowing seamless exchange of information, which a researcher has chosen to share between systems.

Aligned to this, research information systems and workflows are adopting ORCID as a standard and globally recognized person identifier. For example, publishers are increasingly requiring corresponding authors to enter their ORCID identifier as part of the manuscript submission processes, enabling them to generate timely links to an author’s new publications, which can then be seamlessly fed back into their ORCID record. For these benefits to be realised researchers, need to create/claim ORCID identifiers.

At a national level, Queen’s has recently joined ORCID-CA, the ORCID Consortium in Canada (https://orcid-ca.org/node/1). Member organisations include funders, universities, national laboratories, publishers, national science agencies, publication and data repositories, professional societies and others. As a member of this national consortium, Queen’s can explore opportunities to integrate ORCID identifiers in to local research information systems in order to improving the accuracy and exposure of the researchers CV across these platforms as well as reducing the administrative burden through minimizing duplicate data entry.

Purpose
The purpose of this project is to address the Digital Scholarly Record Working Group’s work plan item 5.3:

- Plan and implement a project to implement support for ORCID at Queen’s, as an element of the library’s scholarly communications services and in the context of ORCID-CA, the ORCID consortium in Canada.

Also contributing to work plan item 5.4:

¹ Open Researcher Contributor ID. (2017). Researcher Overview. Retrieved from https://orcid.org/content/orcid-overview-researchers
Plan and implement a project to offer just-in-time researcher training that supports the full research lifecycle (e.g. data management plans, data deposit, open access publication options, ORCIDs, DOIs).

Objectives
1. Promote ORCID id registration and record population at Queen’s by raising awareness of its benefits: author and affiliation name disambiguation, time saving through reduced duplicate data entry, and the potential for increased visibility/impact of Queen’s researchers and their research.
2. Explore interoperability provided by ORCID-CA membership and potential opportunities and costs.

Deliverables
1. A communications and outreach plan outlining key messages, communication channels and timelines.
2. A package of modular promotional materials that can repurposed and articulate the benefits of ORCID in a succinct way, in multiple formats, using consistent language and tone.

Scope
In scope
- Promoting the benefits of ORCID to encourage researcher sign-up.

Out of scope
- The implementation of ORCID into specific research systems at Queen’s.

Budget
- Staff time and expertise
- Costs for the development and creation of any print promotional materials, as appropriate.

Milestones
Immediate milestones identified include:
1. Create a communications and outreach plan (October 2017)

Other milestones will be determined by the project group in collaboration with the members of the DSRWG.

Managers
Project leads TBD

Membership
Full membership of the project team
- Courtney Matthews, Library
- Rosarie Coughlan, Library
Stakeholders

- Researchers (Faculty, Graduates, Undergraduates)
- University Administration
- Research Administrators
- Library
- University Research Services

Communication

See communication plan.

Dependencies with Other Projects and Existing QUL Services

The work of the following active QUL services and groups intersect with this project:

- Research Services Working Group
- Teaching and Learning Working Group

Intersections Across Queen’s University

This proposed project could involve the following units and departments across the University:

- University Research Services (as partners in promotion)
- School of Graduate Studies (as partners in promotion)
- Liaison Librarians (as partners in promotion)
- URS Research Advisors (as partners in promotion)

This proposed project is aligned to the work of the following University groups:

- Research Metrics Working Group (as partners engaged in related activities to support the strategic research goal of increased research prominence).

Assumptions

There is interest at Queen’s to explore the potential benefits of ORCID identifiers both for individual researchers and for research management processes.

Risks and Opportunities

Risks:

- Raising stakeholder expectations to beyond what is achievable.
- Overselling ORCID interoperability.
- Researchers will see ORCID as another administrative burden.

Opportunities:

- Pursuing a systematic approach to ORCID promotion and implementation will increase the likelihood of adoption.
• ORCID can serve as a gateway to a suite of research services that support Queen’s researchers throughout the research lifecycle.