Emerging Standards: Data and Data Exchange in Scholarly Publishing

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Who is Ringgold

• Ringgold is a small, for-profit, database publisher
• Created with the knowledge gained in the course of a project to disambiguate the institutional subscribers to Oxford University Press Journals
• We learned that the entire research and publishing community needed a Persistent Identifier (PID) for institutions, and how to do it.
• Over the past decade, Ringgold has met the requirements necessary to create a trusted PID to identity and understand institutions.

  • Sustainability - *has to be there*
  • Currency - *must be maintained*
  • Governance - *rules matter*
IDENTIFIERS:
The Foundation of new Infrastructure for Scholarly Communications
We need to communicate information about:

**People:** Authors, Members, Editors, Readers, Researchers

**Things:** Ideas, Content, Research data, Grants, Citations

**Places:** Licensees, Publishers, Funders, Intermediaries
Where are we trying to move our ideas & our information?

- Around our company
- To/from external partners
- To/from scholars around the globe
- Into the great unknown
What problems are we facing?

• **Entity management:** Jens-Peter Mueller or J-P. Müller? Uni Hannover or Hanover College?

• **Reporting & Compliance:** Users, librarians, publishers, researchers, funders, students.

• **Interoperability:** Systems, languages, data silos based on functions.
Institutions Play Multiple Roles

Affiliations of Individuals:
- Authors
- Editors
- Reviewers
- Past & present
- Educational
- Employment
- Volunteer

- Funder of research
- Publisher
- Payer of APC
- Member institutions
- Licensees
- Intermediaries
- Operator of CRIS systems
Is the RinggoldID a standard?

• The Ringgold Identifier is not an ISO, or otherwise officially designated standard

• The Ringgold ID has emerged as an accepted persistent identifier which is linked into the Identify Database which serves as an authority file for academic publishers, intermediaries, NGOs, and governments

• The Ringgold Identify Database is mapped to other standards & bridge identifiers (ISNI, IPEDs, etc.)

• Hierarchies are our ‘special sauce’
Your passport to the world of institutions

Scope:
• More than 420,000 institutions
• Global
• Multi-sector (Publishers, Universities, Corporations, Hospitals, Funders, et al)

3 Key Features:
• **Disambiguate**: Ringgold ID
• **Describe**: Up to 25 pieces of structured metadata about each one
• **Link**: Organized hierarchically

Problems solved: Entity management & interoperability
Identify Database of Institutions

- UCLA: Univ Calif Los Angeles
  - Ringgold ID: 8783
  - Metadata
  - Hierarchies
    - Univ Calif System
      - UCLA
      - UCSD
      - Med School
      - Coll of L&S
      - Div of Physical Sci

- UCLA: Universidad Centroccidental Lisandro Alvarado
  - Ringgold ID: 33177

- UCLA: Universidad Contemporanea de las Americas
  - Ringgold ID: 376277

Tier, Size, Subject, Sector, Location, More
Solving Problems: Linking author and institution IDs

- When authors and their affiliations are linked correctly, publishers gain:
  - Market intelligence about authors and institutions
  - Author and subscriber information mapped together
  - Knowledge of where research funding is concentrated
  - Reduction in time taken calculating open access charges (APCs)
  - Resolve conflicts of interest (author & reviewer from same inst)

- Institutions gain information about their overall research output (CRIS systems)
- Funders gain information about where authors reside and publish
The Thing, Inside the Thing

Ringgold’s Mission

To provide identifiers and structured data to power the efficient exchange of information throughout the scholarly research community

…and beyond.
Thank you

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Clean Data. Confident Decisions.

IDO v2.0 Coming this year!