Researcher ID’s: A cataloguer’s perspective – enhancing visibility and accessibility

Martha de Waal
University of Pretoria Library Services
October 28, 2015
Role of the cataloguer

- Organisation of information
- Provide access to information
- Cataloguing activities support UP strategic directions
- Cataloguers are knowledgeable about latest trends & developments on international bibliographic standards
- Access to information should meet the needs of the user/researcher
Cataloguers add value ...

... to already valuable information

Cataloguers have to figure out

- What this ‘thing’ is
- Who might find it useful
- How to make sure it is being find

Fascinating, challenging and fun!
'Central nervous system of librarianship'

Charles Omekwu referred to cataloguing & classification as … with the purpose of providing:

- Provenance and identity (identifiers, i.e. ISBN, ISMN, OCLC record no)
- Discovery (authorised access points, i.e. titles, names, etc.)
- Understanding & evaluation (publication detail and physical description)
’Central nervous system of librarianship’

Provides for the organisation of information & provision of access by means of

- Descriptive cataloguing
- Subject analysis
- Authority control
What is Authority Control (AC)

- AC allows for names of people, places, things & concepts to be authorised/established in one particular form/controlled vocabulary
- Established form is used consistently
- Established form can easily be maintained
- Provides for links & cross-references
- Provides user-friendly search options for patrons/researchers
Why Authority Control

- DLS is a NACO member
  - LC Name Authority Co-operative Programme
- Cataloguers create authority records for names & entities not already in OCLC WorldCat database or LC NAF
- AC organises both authorised access points & bibliographic data
- AC is an ongoing effort to accommodate changes & additions in names/entities
Incomplete Authority Files

As information changes …

• National name authority files are incomplete
  • Authors of journal articles are excluded
  • Some researchers who do not publish are excluded
• Results in individual scholarly output not accurately compiled
  • Influence affiliated institutional ranking
International approaches to identify researchers & create persistent IDs for scholarly output

• ISNI (International Standard Name Identifier)
• VIAF (Virtual International Authority File)
• ORCiD (Open Researcher and Contributor ID)
• Researcher Profile Systems (LinkedIn, Google Scholar, etc.)
• NACO Program (Library of Congress Name Authority Co-operative)
  … and others
Reason for authority records

• Researchers publish under name variants
• Multiple people can share the same name
• Researchers have multiple profiles or IDs which are not linked
• These multiple profiles are not linked nor updated
• Input standards amongst these profiles are not all interoperable

MARC tag 024 (Other standard identifiers)
Identifies ‘the established name in the 1XX field’
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>024</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00000000043605828</td>
<td>isni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>024</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0000-0002-7442-635X</td>
<td>orcid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>024</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36648407</td>
<td>viaf</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authority record details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childress, Eric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCLC Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elon University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Librarian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#q Eric R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childress, Eric R.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Why ORCiD

ORCiD members

- UCT (University of Cape Town)
- GIBS (Gordon Business Institute)
- Various researchers with ORCiDs
- Authority records in the LC Name Authority File
- Authority records in VIAF
- But without 024 MARC tag
- Cataloguers are in a position to contribute ORCiD and other ID numbers
Bibliography:

1. OCLC Research Blog: hangingtogether.org
2. Registering Researchers in Authority Files: an OCLC research report.
On behalf of the Cataloguing Team …
Looking forward to future collaborative actions

I thank you …