Open Organization Identifiers: A Key Piece of Open Access Infrastructure

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How do we find and track University of California research outputs?
This is a metadata problem
This is an infrastructure problem
This is a labor problem
This is a values problem
As a public institution, UC’s research output should be openly available to all
We depend on imperfect systems and external entities to make it openly available.
What do we need to solve these problems?
Finding research requires identifying the components
And connecting these components with open identifiers and open metadata
In 2016, CDL began collaborating on an open registry of identifiers for institutional affiliations.
Those activities led to the launch of the Research Organization Registry in early 2019.
ROR now includes open identifiers and open metadata for more than 102,000 research organizations.
ROR IDs and metadata are provided under a CC0 waiver and are freely and openly available via a search interface, REST API, and public data file.
ROR IDs are designed to be integrated in any system that collects or tracks institutional affiliations
ROR IDs are supported in DOI metadata and in ORCID records
For CDL as a library, ROR is a key part of our Open Access strategy
Pathways to Open Access: Guiding framework for pursuing a multi-pronged strategy for more open and equitable scholarly communications
The pathways lead to Open Access, but how open are the pathways themselves?
System integrations

- Collect ROR IDs in CDL systems
- Include ROR IDs in DOI metadata registered with Crossref and DataCite
Publisher negotiations

Include ROR as an expected requirement in publisher agreements so publisher metadata for research outputs by UC authors includes ROR IDs and is openly available for reuse.
Library publishing

Support persistent identifiers and rich metadata, including ROR IDs, in library publishing activities at UC.
Open infrastructure initiatives

Lead and participate in community initiatives to support wider adoption of persistent identifiers and open metadata for research infrastructure.
Infrastructure as a pathway: 4 things libraries can do right now
Enrich and open our metadata
Open our infrastructure
Rethink our labor structures
Follow our values
Thank you!

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