Scholar Series:
Creating a Unique Researcher Identity

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This guide was adapted from the Alvernia University Franco Library’s Savvy Scholar Series presentation “Out of Cite: How to Track & Boost Your Scholarly Impact.”

The Scholar Series supports information literacy, which is one of the five literacies in the Pennsylvania Library Association’s PA Forward Initiative.
There are four parts to this scholar series – creating a unique research ID, monitoring your research impact, expanding your network and sharing your research, and identifying leading journals. This handout focuses on creating a unique researcher ID.

Create a Unique Researcher Identity

It is important to establish a unique identity. Researchers with the same or similar names are often returned collectively by search engines. When two or more scholars share the same last name and first initial, their work is indistinguishable to the average researcher. Information scientists have attempted to remedy this problem by providing unique ID numbers to individual scholars. At this point, however, scholars must register for these numbers independently.
**ORCID Identifier**

This is a persistent digital identifier to distinguish you from other researchers. Submit research with your ORCID Identifier to ensure your research is connected across platforms. ORCID is not universally recognized yet, but a vast and growing number of institutions and information providers are including ORCID.

[https://orcid.org/](https://orcid.org/)

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**DISTINGUISH YOURSELF IN THREE EASY STEPS**

ORCID provides a persistent digital identifier that distinguishes you from every other researcher and, through integration in key research workflows such as manuscript and grant submission, supports automated linkages between you and your professional activities ensuring that your work is recognized.

1. **REGISTER**
   - Get your unique ORCID identifier. Register now!
   - Registration takes 30 seconds.

2. **ADD YOUR INFO**
   - Enhance your ORCID record with your professional information and link to your other identifiers (such as Scopus or ResearcherID or LinkedIn).

3. **USE YOUR ORCID ID**
   - Include your ORCID Identifier on your webpage, when you submit publications, apply for grants, and in any research workflow to ensure you get credit for your work.

**MEMBERS MAKE ORCID POSSIBLE!**

ORCID is a non-profit organization supported by a global community of organizational members, including research organizations, publishers, funders, professional associations, and other stakeholders in the research ecosystem.

Curious about who our members are? [See our complete list of member organizations](https://orcid.org/)
You can fill in as much or as little information as you want. The important thing is to have the ID to use other places.
Google Scholar Profile

To create a profile in Google Scholar, go to https://scholar.google.com/ and click on My Profile.

Google will next prompt you to build a profile and to build your list of publications from those it returns matching your name. Finally, be sure to make your profile public.

You can monitor your research impact with your Google Scholar profile. More information on that is provided in the Monitoring Your Research Impact guide.

Questions?

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