Persistent identifiers and open scholarly infrastructure supported by Community of Practice

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This presentation provides an overview of the latest trends of PID (Persistent Identifiers) and examples of Community of Practice (CoP), where PID providers and user community work toward common goals and share their practices and implementations, in order to discuss the future of open scholarly infrastructure.

The latest trends of PID

DOI (Digital Object Identifier) system was originally proposed by publishing community in the late 1990's. After 20 years, DOIs are widely adopted as standard identifier to persistently point online locations of online journal publications and any digital objects produced in scholarly communications. ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) celebrated its 5th anniversary with over 4 million registrants, adding approximately 100,000 users each month. A new Organization ID scheme has been proposed by DOI providers such as Crossref (https://www.crossref.org) and DataCite (https://www.datacite.org) along with ORCID, Inc. (https://orcid.org) to form a neutral, non-profit organization with technical requirements and governance under discussion. PIDapalooza(https://pidapalooza.org) is a meeting for those interested in PID applications and proposals for existing and new PIDs for research funding, facilities, projects, protocols and so forth. Following its first meeting in November 2016, the 2nd PIDapalooza was actively participated by stakeholders to discuss PIDs supporting open scholarly infrastructure and research information citizenship.

Community of Practice

Wenger (1998) defines Community of Practice (CoP) as a group of people who share a concern or a passion for something they practice, and share their learning and technical know-how through regular interactions. Under the CoP model, practitioners who posses knowledge and information interact each other beyond their organizational affiliations in order to complement the learning process by combining explicit and tacit knowledge. CoP at its basis learn how to do it better as they interact regularly. The key elements of CoP are (1) domain (for members to engage with passion), (2) community (where members can interact regularly), and (3) practice (members engage in actual practice). The role of coordinator is important for CoP to function as expected.

From CoI to CoP

Research Data Alliance (https://www.rd-alliance.org) and other CoPs are actively stimulating the scholarly communications and provide communities of practitioners to interact each other beyond country and

organizational borders through meetings, both physical and virtual. ORCID consortia model also follows the CoP model, where each consortium is established under stated purposes and identity and provides networking and learning opportunities to share knowledge and experiences needed for ORCID system integrations. In these cases, a variety of stakeholders come together to form working groups and governance bodies to take initiatives in proposing new agenda and applications for better practices in the community. Scholarly community inherently stands on the tradition of Community of Interest (CoI), a group of people sharing the same or similar interests such as academies and other scholarly societies. Under the current climate of open science policy, it is imperative for scholarly community to transform from CoI to CoP based on actual practices and sharing experiences.

Keywords: persistent identifiers, community of practice, scholarly infrastructure, scholarly communication, open science