



AUSTRALIAN  
ACCESS FEDERATION

ORCID

# Australian ORCID Consortium

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## Year in Review 2024

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# Message from the CEO

The ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) Consortium, led by the Australian Access Federation (AAF), had another successful year in 2024.

As Consortium Lead, the AAF is proud to provide a national service to support ORCID adoption at member institutions, and we would like to express our thanks to our members for their ongoing support.

The ORCID Consortium licensing that AAF manages has resulted in significant savings of over \$5.9 million to members between 2016-2024, a reduction in costs of over 50%, compared to joining ORCID directly.

Throughout 2024, the AAF continued to play a key role in promoting the adoption and use of ORCID within the Australian higher education and research sector, while also engaging with the ORCID and persistent identifiers (PIDs) community both nationally and internationally.

In 2024, the Australian ORCID Consortium had 44 members, and almost 193,000 ORCID iDs connected by member integrations. Over 1.47 million items were added through member integrations, with over 217,000 ORCID records with an 'au' domain, nearly six times greater than when the Consortium launched. These outstanding figures demonstrate the continued significance of ORCID in Australia's higher education and research sector.

We were also pleased to support 100% of our members in completing a successful ORCID integration, with 19 members undertaking multiple integrations. With nearly 30,000 new ORCID iDs created, this highlights the continued adoption and growth of ORCID, underscoring its significance for the national research community.

Engagement has continued to be a priority, over 150 national and international engagements were conducted in 2024. These engagements included live and virtual events, focus group discussions, community calls and many one-on-one consultations.

To continue to grow the high level of engagement with the community, we were pleased to welcome Julie Toohey to AAF as our ORCID Community Specialist in September.

At this time, we would like to acknowledge the outgoing ORCID Steering Committee Chair, Professor Joe Shapter, as he steps down to focus on other exciting work currently underway within the Australian research sector. The AAF would like to express our sincere thanks to Joe for his outstanding leadership as chair and for his dedication and vision which has greatly influenced our success and the direction of Australian ORCID Consortium.

Throughout 2024, AAF have continued to collaborate with the national persistent identifier (PID) community through the Australian National PID Strategy and Roadmap activities. Released by the Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC) in early 2024, it plans to accelerate Australian research quality, efficiency and impact through the universal use of PIDs and ORCIDs. The AAF have contributed to the national collaborative Stakeholder Action Groups throughout 2024, and we look forward to continuing our involvement in 2025. This is an opportunity to strengthen Australia's digital information ecosystem with a national approach to tracking research impact and support research integrity and innovation.

Looking forward, we see a national research system which is increasingly connected, and one in which ORCID enables the continued effective reporting of research activity for member organisations. We look forward to progressing new initiatives and continuing to support our members.



**Heath Marks**

CEO

Australian Access Federation Ltd and  
ORCID Board Member

# History of ORCID in Australia

## AAF leads the ORCID Consortium in Australia

### 2014

- Australian National Data Service (ANDS) & Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL) hosted a national forum to address the challenge of identifying researchers and their research

### 2015

- ORCID Working Group formed
- Release of joint statements by peak bodies and funders supporting initiative
- Universities Australia Deputy Vice Chancellor's support of ORCID
- Consortium model developed
- AAF appointed Consortium Lead for Australia
- Agreement signed by 40 members

### 2016

- Australian Consortium launched
- 40 members
- 52% integrated

### 2020

- 136,000+ ORCID iDs registered to an '.au' email address
- 42 Consortium members
- 83% integrated
- Maturity assessment launched, aiming to highlight areas where members were excelling and where advancements were needed

### 2021

- 152,000+ ORCID iDs registered to an '.au' email address
- 42 Consortium members
- 90% integrated

### 2022

- 172,000+ ORCID iDs registered to an '.au' email address
- 43 Consortium members
- 90% integrated
- *Incentives to Invest in Identifiers: A cost-benefit analysis of persistent identifiers in Australian research systems* report released

## \$5.9 million in savings for our members

ORCID is a persistent identifier (PID) that is free for individuals to use as they engage in research, scholarship and innovation activities. ORCID enables researchers to spend more time conducting research and less time managing it, by enhancing discoverability of research outputs and automating updates to individual records.

The Australian ORCID Consortium has generated substantial savings of more than \$5.9 million for members since 2016, by reducing membership fees by over 50% in comparison to having a direct membership with ORCID.

The Australian ORCID Consortium also provides local technical support, assists with member integrations and promotes national uptake of ORCID in organisations. Benefits of Consortium membership include access to premium ORCID membership, reduced membership fees, and the opportunity to be part of a national community with localised support and events.

### 2017

- 70,000+ ORCID iDs registered to an '.au' email address
- 40 Consortium members
- 57% integrated

### 2018

- 80,000+ ORCID iDs registered to an '.au' email address
- 40 Consortium members
- 70% integrated
- Australian Research Council use of ORCID in grant applications

### 2019

- 130,000+ ORCID iDs registered to an '.au' email address
- 41 Consortium members
- 78% integrated

### 2023

- 172,000+ ORCID iDs registered to an '.au' email address
- 44 Consortium members
- 95% integrated
- National PID Strategy and Roadmap Strategic Advisory Group formed
- National PID Strategy development

### 2024

- 217,000+ ORCID iDs registered to an '.au' email address
- 44 Consortium members
- 100% integrated
- Australian National PID Strategy and Roadmap released and Stakeholder Action Groups formed



# ORCID Consortium membership

44

MEMBERS

38 Higher Education Institutes

3 Research Organisations

2 National Funders

1 Government Organisation

CSIRO

Australian Nuclear  
Science and Technology  
Organisation

Australian Research Council

NHMRC (National Health and Medical Research Council)

Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC)

Australian National University

University of Canberra

Australian Catholic University

Charles Sturt University

Macquarie University

Southern Cross University

University of New England

University of Newcastle

University of NSW

University of Sydney

University of Technology Sydney

University of Wollongong

Western Sydney University

Charles Darwin University

Bond University

Central Queensland University

Griffith University

James Cook University (JCU)

QUT

University of Queensland

University of Southern  
Queensland

University of Sunshine Coast  
Queensland Health

Flinders University

The University of Adelaide

University of South Australia

University of Tasmania

Deakin University

La Trobe University

Monash University

RMIT University

Swinburne University of Technology

The University of Melbourne

Victoria University

Federation University Australia

Curtin University

Edith Cowan University

Murdoch University

The University of Western Australia

# Member integrations and development

Integrating with ORCID is a robust method to support the researchers affiliated with your organisation. The ORCID member API enables the retrieval, modification, or addition of information on an individual user's ORCID record, with their consent. We support integrations with the ORCID Registry to be bi-directional, so that organisational systems can both push and pull data to and from ORCID records.

66

MEMBER INTEGRATIONS

19

MEMBERS WITH MULTIPLE INTEGRATIONS

285,381

ITEMS ADDED THROUGH MEMBER INTEGRATIONS

217,730

ORCID RECORDS WITH A '.AU' DOMAIN

192,870

ORCID IDS CONNECTED BY INTEGRATIONS

33,063

RESEARCHERS THAT HAVE BENEFITTED FROM  
AUTOMATIC UPDATES TO THEIR ORCID RECORDS

32,824

UNIQUE ORCID IDS UPDATED WITH AFFILIATION

29,860

NEW ORCID IDS CREATED IN 2024

# Engaging with and supporting our members

In 2024, we had a productive year filled with various engagements to support our valued members. We conducted one-on-one consultations, webinars, and community calls, and attended several informative conferences and workshops, both domestically and internationally.

To support the needs of the community, we ran two focus group sessions in May, with a cross-section of Consortium members. The focus groups provided the AAF with valuable feedback and assisted in identifying areas for continued improvement in 2024 and 2025.

In July, we welcomed Matthias Liffers, Product Manager (Persistent Identifier Services) and Siobhann McCafferty, Product Manager (PIDs) from Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC), alongside AAF's Melroy Almeida, to discuss the National PID Strategy and Roadmap progress to date, and how ORCID members and the broader researcher community can contribute moving forward. This session was very well attended by Consortium members and the national research infrastructure community.

Following feedback from our members, we also hosted two international community calls in August and October. It was insightful to have Brian Minihan from ORCID attending both calls, in addition to Dr Alex Freemantle, ORCID Lead at the Royal Society Te Apārangi in August, to share their knowledge and experience with our members. The community calls gave members an opportunity to hear the latest ORCID news and updates, share tips and tricks and ask any questions related to ORCID and PIDs.

We look forward to continuing to engage with our members in 2025.

## **PIDfest 2024: Bringing together global leaders in persistent identifiers**

PIDfest is a meeting of PID specialists and evangelists from around the world. PIDfest 2024 provided an exceptional stage for fostering connections with the global PID community and forged discussions that will define future initiatives within the Australian ORCID Consortium, in alignment with global best practice.

AAF's Melroy Almeida attended PIDfest 2024, organised by the National Library of Technology in Prague, Czech Republic and the ARDC. It brought together users, advocates and leaders for talks, activities and workshops focussed on how PIDs can deliver world-class research infrastructure and accelerate research and innovation.

Melroy's presentation titled 'Australian National Graph: Leveraging PIDs to animate the national level network of research collaborations', explored the connections between ORCID, and other PIDs which provide a valuable source of information about the digital footprint of research and the collaboration network of researchers. It led to much discussion from audience members on how PIDs can be used to understand research capabilities and make business decisions.

In his second presentation, 'Understanding what makes Persistent Identifiers "persistent"', Melroy facilitated a discussion with fellow attendees on the role of community in the usage and adoption of PIDs, looking to understand which components of the community and what sort of ecosystems nurture the success of PIDs and continue to make them persistent over time. presented by PIDs and gain valuable insights into their transformative potential.



"The Australian ORCID Consortium led by AAF has been essential in moving Australia forward as a collective to adopt and gain the benefits of ORCID to researchers, funders and research institutions. The National PID Strategy builds on this strong foundation and expands to other persistent identifiers (PIDs), giving us a framework for greater connectivity, visibility, use and translation of Australian research. ARDC is pleased to be collaborating with AAF in the implementation stage of the National PID Strategy and congratulate them in leading the ORCID Consortium."

**Natasha Simons, Director, National Coordination at Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC).**



# Engagements



**5 community calls**



**60 Community of Practice sessions**



**2 focus groups**



**36 one-on-one ORCID member consultations**



**5 conferences and forums**



**8 presentations**



**7 ORCID communications released**

## Community support

In 2024, Consortium members continued to receive comprehensive support and assistance from the AAF team. This support included integrations, testing, and planning services. Members were provided with administrative and technical assistance, as well as consultations and training.

## Committees and working groups

### International

- ORCID Board Director
- ORCID Consortia Interest Group
- Crossref Ambassador
- Research Data Alliance (RDA) interest and working groups

### National

- Australian ORCID Consortium Steering Committee
- National PID Strategy and Roadmap Stakeholder Action Groups
- Research Bazaar (ResBaz)
- Identifiers for Instruments Australia (i4iOZ) Community of Practice


# Community outreach



## International engagements

1. PIDfest in Prague, Czech Republic
2. ORCID Consortia Interest group meeting, Santiago, Chile





"The AAF, as the lead organisation of the Australian ORCID Consortium, continues its excellent service to researchers and research institutions in Australia. AAF collaborates closely with its 44 members to ensure ORCID is integrated into their workflows and systems. They add, on average, hundreds of thousands of works per year to their researchers' ORCID records, and have also added over 25,000 affiliations, ensuring Australia is well represented in ORCID's global community trust network, and helping to reduce administrative burden for researchers throughout the country."

**Chris Shillum, ORCID  
Executive Director.**

#### **National engagements**

1. eResearch Australasia 2024 in Melbourne, VIC
2. 36 one-on-one ORCID member consultations — Australia
3. National PID Strategy and Roadmap Stakeholder Action Groups — Australia

# ORCID iDs enhancing national research infrastructures

## Making visible the impact of Australia's national microscopy infrastructure

Microscopy Australia are a consortium of university-based microscopy facilities that more than 3,500 researchers across Australia use each year. They aim to empower Australian science and innovation by making advanced microscopes accessible to all researchers.

One of the greatest challenges in research is to connect and report on distributed services and this AAF Trust and Identity Incubator explores how richer reporting, impact tracking and usage data may be provided through ORCID iDs and PIDs across national research infrastructure.

According to Dr Lisa Yen, Microscopy Australia's Chief Executive Officer:

"One of our greatest challenges, is to connect and report on the impact of our distributed services. We have partnered with the AAF to investigate the tracking of our infrastructure through PIDs at The University of Queensland, UNSW Sydney, Monash University and the University of Adelaide.

Our goal is to empower Australian science and innovation, by making advanced microscopes accessible to all researchers

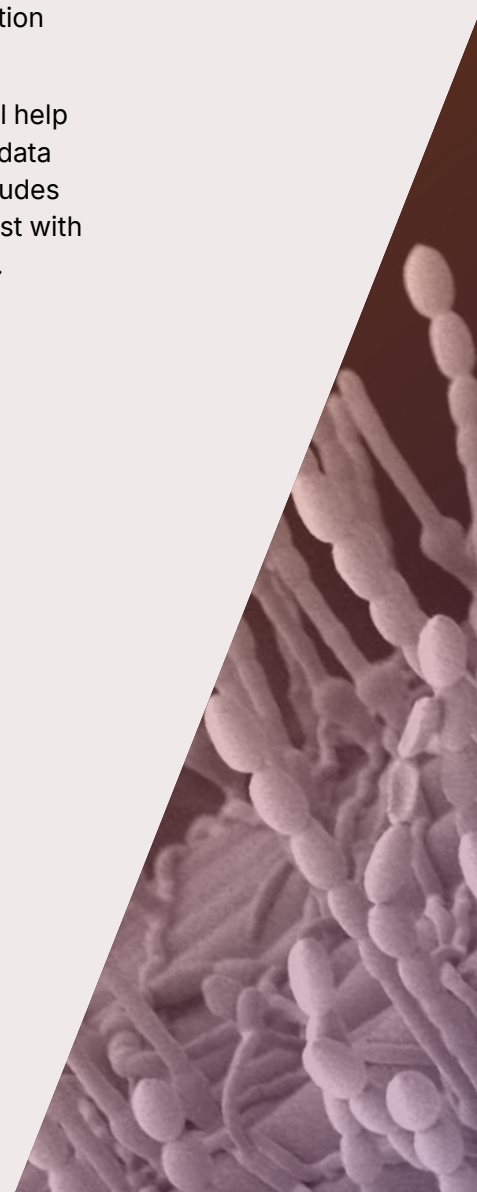
By being able to show, who is using our facilities to enable their research, we make visible our impact and ensure that our facilities are available into the future, to support further critical research and innovation."

The AAF worked with Microscopy Australia to provide recommendations on how ORCID iDs and other PIDs (such as organisation identifiers like RoRs — Research Organisation Registry) can assist with the identification of users of their large instrument facilities.

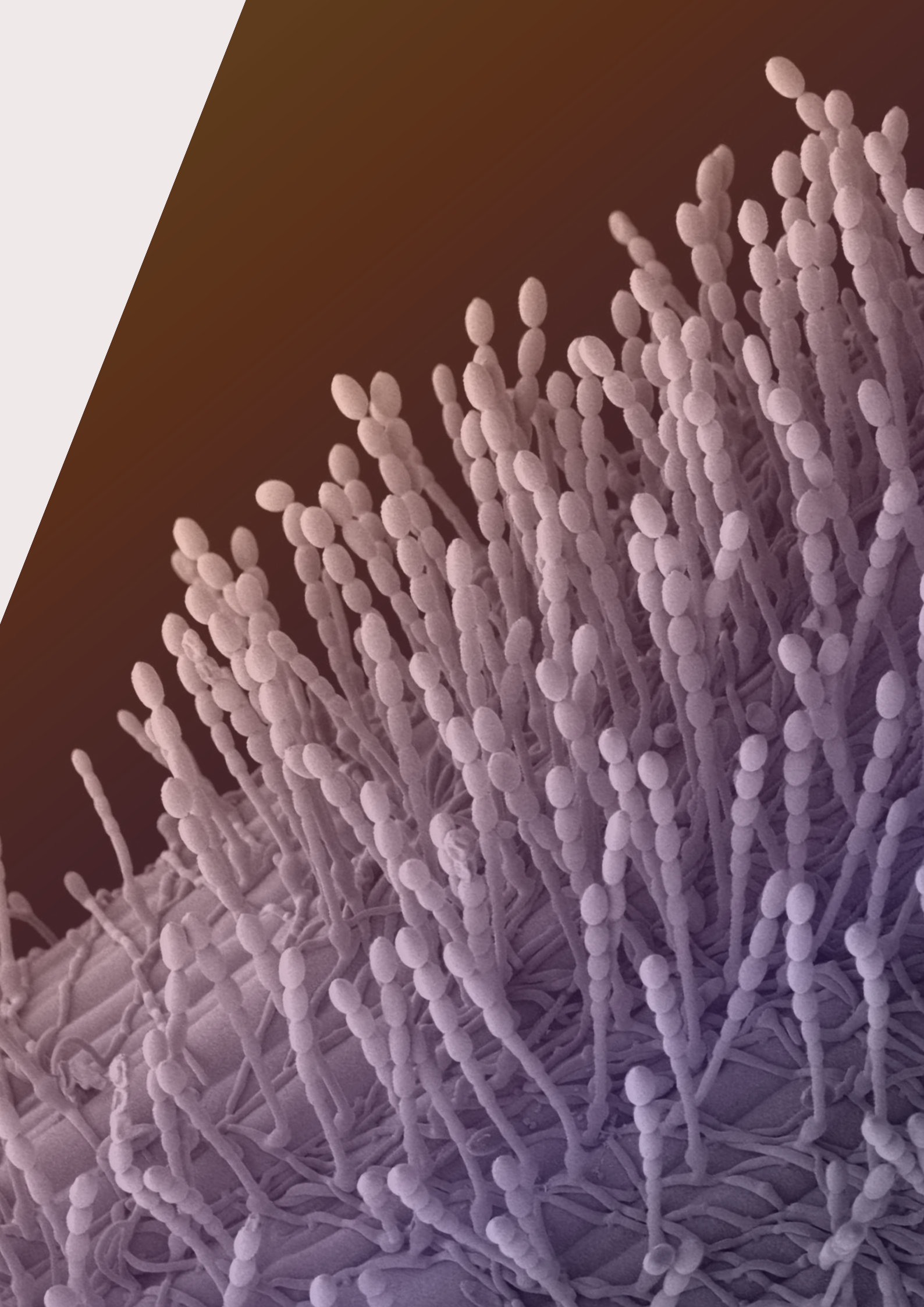
Across all Microscopy Australia facilities interviewed for this it was noted that ORCID iDs and PIDs would provide improved business processes and streamline instrument output collection and reporting.

The incubator recommendations will help inform Microscopy Australia's metadata standards, an element of which includes how ORCID and other PIDs can assist with reporting on users and instruments.

*Image credit: Microscopy Australia*







# Australian National PID Strategy and Roadmap



Since the launch of the Australian ORCID Consortium in 2016, the AAF have led and encouraged the adoption of ORCID and other PIDs in the Australian higher education, research and innovation sectors. ORCID is a world-wide approach to disambiguating researchers by providing them with a long-lasting identifier, connecting them to their research activities and contributions. The uptake of ORCID across Australia has been extremely successful, and demonstrates the importance of integrating a trusted attribution tool into contemporary research to guarantee richer reporting and impact tracking.

*The Incentives to Invest in Identifiers: A cost-benefit analysis of persistent identifiers in Australian research systems* report commissioned by the AAF and ARDC released in 2022, led to the development of the Australian National Persistent Identifier (PID) Strategy and Roadmap, released by ARDC in early 2024.

The Australian National PID Strategy envisions the accelerated enhancement of Australian research quality, efficiency, and impact through the widespread adoption and usage of connected PIDs.

In 2024, the ARDC established a series of Stakeholder Action Groups to enable the Australian National PID Strategy and to contribute to the National Collaborative Roadmap. These include:

- Research organisations stakeholder action group
- Funders stakeholder action group
- National Collaborative Research Infrastructure providers (NCRIS) stakeholder action group

Representatives from the AAF participated in these groups in 2024, including ORCID Engagement & Support Lead Melroy Almeida, and Portfolio Managers Sarah Thomas and Nick Rossow.

We look forward to continuing our collaborative work within the Stakeholder Action Groups to ensure the successful implementation of ORCID and PIDs within the Australian research community.







# ORCID Governance

The ORCID Steering Committee acts in the interests of the Australian ORCID Consortium members. Providing guidance to the AAF as Consortium Lead and ensuring future sustainability. It aims to provide expert knowledge and contribute to the development of the National PID Strategy and Roadmap and support future policy development and implementation.

<b>Professor Joe Shapter</b>	Independent Chair
<b>Natasha Simons</b>	Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC)
<b>Elleina Filippi</b>	AAF nominee
<b>Jill Benn</b>	Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL), Chair
<b>Professor Susan Dodds</b>	Universities Australia Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Research Committee, Chair
<b>Greg Sawyer</b>	Council of Australasian University Directors of Information Technology (CAUDIT), CEO
<b>Julie Glover</b>	NHMRC, Executive Director
<b>Claire Forsyth</b>	Australian Research Council (ARC)
<b>Michelle Vincent</b>	Australasian Research Management Society (ARMS), Chair





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