Researcher identifiers at La Trobe University

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Scopus identifiers project

...to ensure La Trobe researchers had one unique Scopus Author ID (Elsevier) under which all their citations and papers are listed

1. improved La Trobe international rankings
2. Improved individual researcher impact, h index not diluted
3. better results in harvesting publications in Symplectic Elements (My Publications)
4. subsequent flow on effects to HERDC and ERA data collections.
5. high impact for researchers in the sciences, health and engineering
Scopus workflow

1. La Trobe University’s 202 most prolifically-published authors identified
2. Identify any multiple Scopus author profiles for these 202 authors
3. Report identified problems to Scopus
4. Add to the appropriate field within Symplectic elements.
5. There was no attempt to identify duplicate Scopus profiles that didn’t include a La Trobe University affiliation since this would have been impractical, especially for authors with common names.
Scopus - outcomes

1. 152 (75%) had a single Scopus author identifier affiliated with La Trobe University
2. Of the remaining 50 authors:
3. 46 had multiple LTU-affiliated author profiles which were reported to Scopus using the “Request to merge authors” form.
   - Most of these had 2 or 3 identified profiles, but there was one instance where 10 duplicate profiles were identified.
4. one was deceased (no action taken),
5. one didn’t include La Trobe University in their list of affiliations
6. two didn’t confirm that the potential duplicate profiles belonged to them so no action was taken.
two distinct approaches to institutional engagement with identifiers:

1) Focus on communication and encourage staff and students to register themselves

2) Automatically bulk create identifiers

While “Create” has been used for the La Trobe ISNI work, (but no clear incentive for their use by researchers), this project proposes investigating an “Encourage” approach, to begin to change attitudes and behaviours in the La Trobe researcher community around identifiers.
part of a larger communications & training program of the Library Research team

The key outcomes around identifiers are to:

1. Work on messages that incorporate drivers of researcher behaviour
2. Encourage staff and students to register themselves for an ORCID, and link their ORCID to other identifiers.
3. Encourage staff to login and update Elements with their ISNI and ORCID.
Thank you