ISNI goals, governance and membership

Andrew MacEwan, British Library & ISNI International Agency
Common interest → ISO standard

Standards developed by:

- ISO TC 46 Information and documentation / SC 9 Identification and description
  - ISO 27729 International Standard Name Identifier

- Timeline 2006 – 2008 to draft Standard
- 2008 Call for expressions of interest to form a consortium to implement the standard
ISO 27729
International Standard Name Identifier

• Identifies Public identities of parties (individuals or organizations)

• Act as a bridge identifier that links existing identifiers

• Is universal in scope identifying all public identities that:
  • create, produce, manage, distribute or feature in creative contents including writers, artists, creators, performers, researchers, producers, publishers, aggregators, and more)
ISNI – International Agency

- 2010 incorporated in London by Founding Members
  - CENL: Conference of European National Librarians
    - British Library & Bibliothèque nationale de France
  - CISAC: International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers
  - IFRRO: International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organisations
  - SCAPR: Societies’ Council for the Collective Management of Performers’ Rights
  - OCLC
  - ProQuest/Bowker
Currently serving on the Board are:

- **Chair**: Michael Healey, IFRRO (Copyright Clearance Center (CCC)),
- **Treasurer**: Laura Cox, Ringgold
- **Secretary**: Andrew MacEwan, CENL (BL)
- Héloïse Lecomte, CENL (BnF)
- Kaj Christensen, SCAPR
- Martin van Muyen, OCLC
- José Macarro, CISAC
Vision

- ISNI is the globally recognized and adopted standard approved by ISO for the unique identification of public identities across all fields of creative activity.

Mission Statement

- The mission of the ISNI-IA is to create and diffuse neutral, sharable, unique and disambiguated identification (identifiers and metadata) of Public Identities that can be used as a bridge-identifier by contributors to the ISNI database and system including libraries, rights management and trade organizations, and shared openly, effectively and globally.

* From ISNI-IA Business Plan
VIAF and ISNI: scope

**VIAF Scope**
- Persons
- Organisations
- Works / uniform titles
- Expressions
- Meetings
- Geographic
- All public data

**ISNI Scope**
- Persons
  - + musicians, researchers
- Organisations
- (excluding sparse)
- (excluding undifferentiated)
- Includes private data
VIAF and ISNI: purpose

**VIAF Role**
- Ingest authority records from the world’s major national and research libraries
- Make clusters
- Expose and diffuse whole file

**ISNI Role**
- Create permanent IDs
- Diffuse only assigned IDs
  - Scored above confidence threshold
- Provisional status records retained – accessible to members
VIAF and ISNI: system & process

VIAF System
• Harvester
• Clustering mechanism (re-clustered monthly)
• 5 web interface languages
• Download in multiple formats
• Linked data & SRU

1 million personal visitors p.a.

ISNI System
• Batch load
• Online request API
• Web site (English only)
  • Allows end user input
  • Member input and correction
  • 16+ indexes
• SRU; linked data
• Quality Team monitoring & correcting
• Diffusion, including corrections
Identifier Management Ecosystem

OCLC

ISNI Database
Harvested, Batch loaded; Online contributions

Algorithms
Notifications
Data fixing

Sampling
Data Policy

Enrichment
Correction
Curation

Crowd sourcing

Ongoing data contribution – Members and Registration Agencies
ISNI as Authority Data/
ISNI as Identifier Management system

- ISNI data sources
  - Assignment
  - Bridging data
  - Bib and authority data
- Searching and indexes
- Maintenance
  - Web maintenance
- Hunting anomalies

- VIAF and interoperability
  - Data characteristics
  - Movement reports
  - Cluster errors

Quality Team (& Members)
- Curated crowd sourcing
- Merging & splitting
- Sampling
- Discussion & policy papers
ISNI Quality Team

- Samples data regularly
  - c. 2% VIAF clusters have mixed identities
  - Duplicate clusters are higher, nearer 5%
- Makes corrections *at cluster level*
  - Merges, splits, error notifications
  - Access to cataloguing client / macros
- Makes system recommendations
- Gives approval for single source assignment
- Responds to End User input
- Sends emails to sources for error correction *(19 VIAF sources currently participating)*
ISNI Assignment Agency

- Software maintenance and development
  - Urgent jobs
  - Data Analysis
  - Bug fixes & improvements
- Operations
  - Reports and notifications,
  - VIAF loading
  - Repairs
  - New contributor profiles added
ISNI Technical Advisory Committee

- ISNI database statistics and reports
- Data Quality Team – reports
- Drafts policy documentation
- Review and signoff of all supporting technical and metadata documentation
- Workflows
- Recommendations to Board
Current ISNI network members … and growing

Current ISNI Members and Registration Agencies – Non-libraries

ABES (French Bibliographic Agency for Higher Education)
CEDRO
CDR (Centrale Discotheek Rotterdam)
Copyrus
FCCN
French National Archives (Archives nationales de France)
Iconoclaste
Irish Copyright Licensing Agency (ICLA)
ISSN International Centre
Publishers Licensing Society
Electre (RA)
Kültür ve Turizm Bakanlığı (RA)
Numerical Gurus (RA)
Ringgold (RA) - registers organization names
Current ISNI-IA Members and Registration Agencies - Libraries

Harvard University
La Trobe University
Library of Congress
National Library of Finland
National Library of Norway
National Library of New Zealand
University of New South Wales Library
MacOdrum Library, Carleton University
BnF (Bibliothèque nationale de France) (RA)
Bibliothèque nationale de Luxembourg (RA)
British Library (RA)
Koninklijke Bibliotheek (RA)
National Assembly Library of Korea (RA)
National Library of Korea (RA)
National Library of Poland (RA)
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Australia</th>
<th>Belgium</th>
<th>Netherlands</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• La Trobe University - Cultural</td>
<td>• Boekenbank - Rights Management (authors and publishers)</td>
<td>• Centrum Dienstverlening Auteurs en aanverwante Rechten - Rights Management (mostly authors)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• University of New South Wales - Education</td>
<td>• National Library of the Netherlands - Cultural</td>
<td>• Digital Author Identifier - Research</td>
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<td>• SwissPerform - Rights Management (mostly performers)</td>
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<td>International</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td>• Authors’ Licensing and Collecting Society - Rights Management (mostly authors)</td>
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<td>• British Library Theses - Education (researchers)</td>
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<td>• American Chemical Society - Trade (mostly researchers)</td>
<td>• Modern Languages Association - Professional Society (mostly authors)</td>
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ISNI future governance – considerations

• Representation on ISNI-IA Board to reflect wider membership

• Governance & coordination of library participation
  • CENL role? VIAF Council? Program for Cooperative Cataloging?

• Coordination with ISNI-IA Technical and Policy governance

• OCLC as service provider vs Registration Agency on behalf of libraries?
Thank you