

Harnessing the Power of ORCID On Campus: ORCID Integration Lessons Learned

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Background

On January 15, 2019, UT Southwestern Health Sciences Digital Library and Learning Center officially launched ORCID@UTSW integration site. ORCID (**O**pen **R**esearch and **C**ontributor **I**D) is a not-for-profit organization whose vision is to help researchers establish and maintain their scholarly identity and connect with each other. By creating persistent unique identifiers, ORCID minimizes name ambiguity. The ORCID iD is adopted widely by educational institutions, publishers, and funders and utilized in databases. UT Southwestern Medical Center partners with ORCID as a “Trusted Organization” to connect our students & researchers to their scholarly work.

Determining an Approach

- Location – Front and backend systems
- Personnel, longevity, and future plans
- Assessment and ripeness of various campus systems and existing data structures
- Data integrity and integration value
- Campus buy-in and ORCID adoption /requirements in campus events and activities
- Compliance strategies that can integrate into existing onboarding trainings

Establishing an Interdepartmental Team

- The ORCID project was mandated by our administration, but a massive upgrade to the campus human resources management system (HRMS) was in process at the same time.
- The Library was tasked with managing the ORCID implementation, which allowed the project to be managed independently of the HRMS upgrade, while other information resources (IR) divisions were able to assist and provide input, as needed.
- Individual meetings with each area that would be impacted by the ORCID project were held to gather initial thoughts about needs and deliverables.
- Representatives from each group then participated in a team to create and implement the project plan, which allowed us to focus on the “Big Picture” and provided momentum to work on a variety of areas simultaneously.

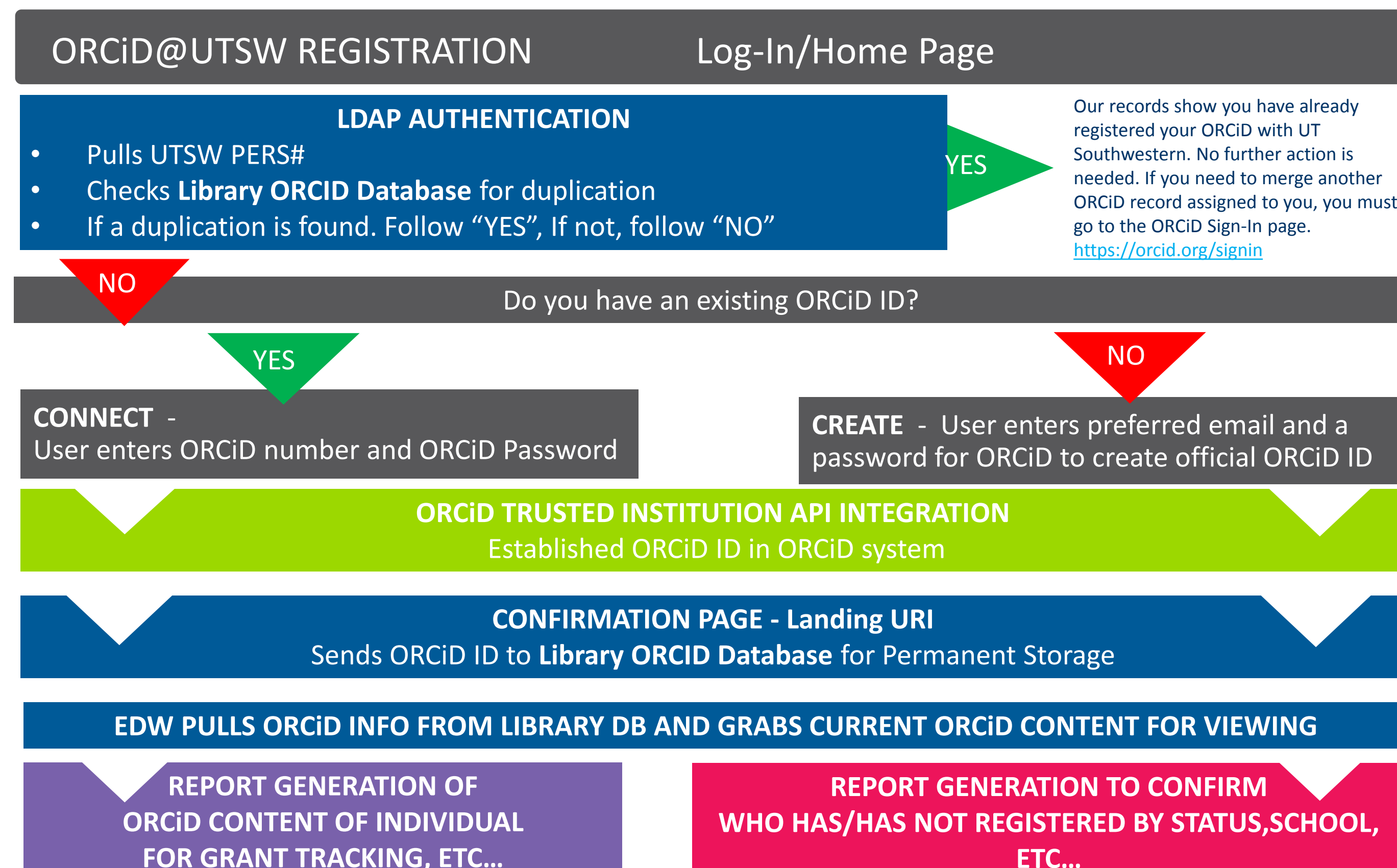
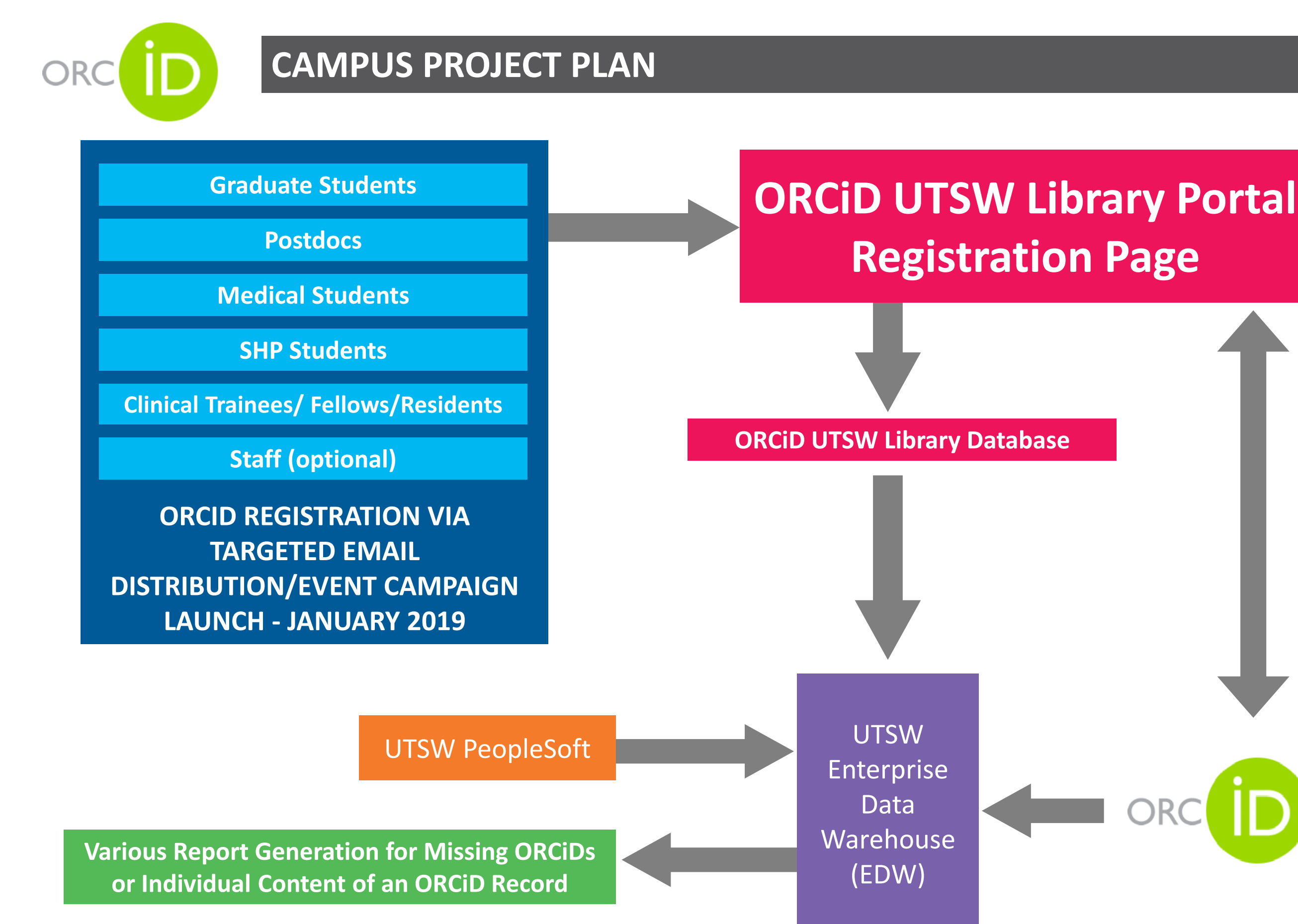
Divide and Conquer Strategy

The decision was made to establish an ORCID database independent from the HRMS. This ensured data integrity and trust integration, as well as the flexibility for the database to change as institutional and ORCID systems and structures changed. It also defined manageable objectives for each department to maximize strengths and timelines.

Planning for Future Successes

- Setting a formal campus policy for all learners to create and connect their ORCID iDs.
- Determining a sustainable registration protocol is central, and we are determining the effectiveness of long-term strategies.
- Focusing on registration and utilization is important, which requires institutional support and reinforcement of ORCID usage.
- Setting requirements for repository submission for professional development that either require an ORCID iD or support other professional milestones will encourage long-range adoption and usage for institutional return on investment.
- Adding value-added services – e.g., a CV generator that works with a registered ORCID iD – would provide immediate value and usage.
- Determining service values associated with ORCID by identifying current needs from education needs is key to sustainability and participation.

Determining Workflow Processes



Registration Strategies

- The website portal and navigation produced minimal results during the first two weeks.
- Targeted emails were sent to medical and postdoctoral students from Dean’s offices, which produced great momentum and is directly responsible for the significant spikes in ORCID registration shown in the chart below.
- Human Resources training modules for all learners will be implemented in May 2019.

