

Using PIDs in Publishing

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JST/CHORUS Forum at JOSS 2026: How PIDs Can Change Research

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Author Verification- Separating Good Actors from Bad Actors

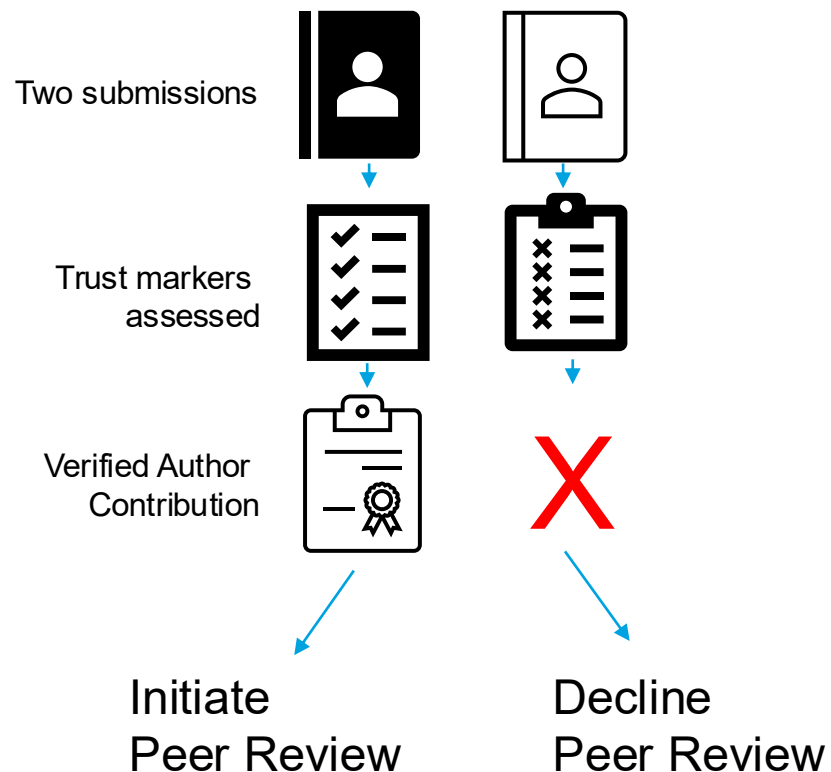


Stock photo: Authors working in a computer room.



Stock photo: Authors working in laboratory setting.

Trusted Peer Review Includes a Trusted Author Identity



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Trusted Identity in Academic Publishing

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Part 2: The Researcher Identity Verification Framework

Richard Northover, Hylke Koers, Aaron Wood, Adam Sewell, Andy Heard, Helen King, Jacob Kendall-Taylor, Jennifer Wright, Joris van Rossum, Kevin Lawson, Lib Davies, Lucy Loftus, Matthew Salter, Phil Reimann, Ralph Youngen, Sam Parker, Tim Lloyd

Draft for community review

www.stm-assoc.org

Read the recent report on Trusted Identity in Academic Publishing- [Researcher Identity - STM Association](#)

Modeling Trust

- An editorial platform can determine a user's trustworthiness by checking:
 - ▶ Evidence of individual identity
 - ▶ Evidence of academic participation

Evidence of individual identity	Evidence of academic participation		
	None	Some	Good
Good	<p>TRUST VIA ACCOUNTABILITY</p> <p>Good confidence in identity alone means accountability despite lack of credibility.</p>	<p>GOOD TRUST</p> <p>Good confidence in a user's identity and some that they are a genuine researcher</p>	<p>MAXIMUM TRUST</p> <p>Good confidence in a user's identity and that they are a genuine researcher</p>
Some	<p>LOW TRUST</p> <p>Some confidence in identity, but no supporting academic evidence.</p>	<p>MEDIUM TRUST</p> <p>Some confidence in a user's identity and some that they are a genuine researcher</p>	<p>GOOD TRUST</p> <p>Trust provided by the good research evidence is limited by evidence of identity</p>
None	<p>NO TRUST</p> <p>No confidence in a user's identity or evidence that they are a genuine researcher</p>	<p>NO TRUST</p> <p>Some evidence of credibility but it can't be reliably linked to an identified individual</p>	<p>NO TRUST</p> <p>Good evidence of credibility but it can't be reliably linked to an identified individual</p>

Verification Methods and Trust Levels

Trust Level		Method
3	High Trust	ORCID + trust markers + MFA Manual Verification Vouching
2	Medium Trust	Institutional affiliation via IDP + MFA ORCID + trust markers
1	Basic Trust	Institutional affiliation via IDP/email Document verification Payment Card verification
0	Insufficient Trust	ORCID without trust markers Opaque email address Non-institutional IDPs

Considerations:

- Method availability
- Deferred verification
- Reverification
- Security
- Multi-dimensional verification

Challenges

- Verification could frustrate legitimate users
- Verification could alter the relationship between researchers and publishers
- “Proving affiliation” may not be a barrier for bad actors
- Some users prefer non-institutional email addresses or IDs
- How often will users have to verify identity?
- Self-service verification tools could be high cost





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