

Persistent Identifiers

Scholarly Comms training for Heritage
8 March 2023

Persistent identifiers?

Providing a stable and long-lived link to an object (or information about it)

[https://doi.org/ 10.17863/CAM.4926](https://doi.org/10.17863/CAM.4926)

[https://isni.org/isni/ 0000000043786489](https://isni.org/isni/0000000043786489)

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN
?

Actionable

Can be used to access the entity described, or information about it



Globally unique

The identifier string has no global clashes and cannot be reused to describe another entity



Persistent

These properties can be guaranteed long term



through a combination of technology, management and governance.

Why these features specifically?

They allow practical functionality and tools that:

- Support citation
- Enable linked data
- Share a common understanding of functions by our users

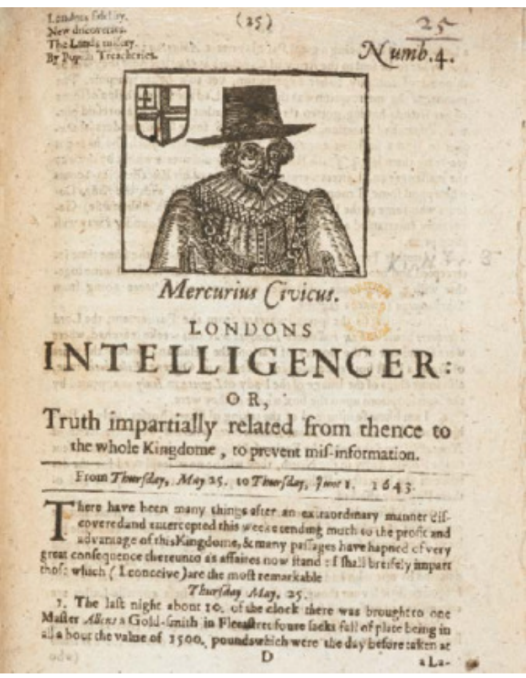


This will almost certainly change in future.

British and Irish Newspapers

Public

Deposited



Download PDF

Citations: ▾

This wont.



Resource type
Dataset

Creator
British Library ([isni](#))

Contributor
McKernan, Ryan, Yarnall, Lester, St...

Abstract
A title-level

Date published
2019

Institution
British Lib

Funder
Awards:

Publisher
British Library

Place of publication

Citations: ▾



Further down...

Funder

Awards:

Publisher

British Library

Place of publication

London, UK

Official URL

<https://doi.org/10.23636/1136>

Related URL

<https://www.bl.uk/subjects/news-media>

Licence

CC Public Domain Mark 1.0

Persistent Identifier governance

Certain identifiers require organisational commitment that identifiers are managed and resources available long term

- Contractual impetus
- Supports sustainability beyond the lifespan of a single service or platform
- Libraries key to supporting activity
- May unlock organisational investment



Persistent Identifier governance

Governance with the concept transferable ownership enables:

- commitment to sustain resources beyond the lifetime of an institution
- sustainability as a community effort
- commercial consideration of sustainability drives relationships with Libraries
 - E.g. CLOCKSS <https://clockss.org/>



Persistent Identifier use

Enable stable relationships between items and concepts, particularly:

- versions or parts of the 'same' object
- items and their authority controlled or canonical relations



What you can do next

Use persistent identifiers in citations – and encourage others to do the same!

Ensure resources you develop can and do support citation with identifiers

Have a look at our Developing Identifiers resource – and tell us what you think

<https://tanc-ahrc.github.io/PIDResources/>



PIDs in heritage

- Library began PIDs as IRO Infrastructure project early in 2020
- Final report recommendations in 2022 included creation of PID policies

More IROs, higher education institutions and heritage organisations should implement policies on use of PIDs to support linking of items and their metadata across institutional boundaries, and identify a minimum technical passive provision for PIDs that future-proofs new tools and systems for their use

FINAL REPORT FOUNDATION PROJECTS

Persistent Identifiers as IRO Infrastructure

PI: Rachael Kotarski, British Library

The British Library | Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
The National Gallery | University of Glasgow
Victoria and Albert Museum | Science Museum Group
Natural History Museum

March 2022

Developing Identifiers for Heritage Collections

A persistent identifier (PID) is a long lasting reference to a resource, such as a collection item, book, or object. It can also refer to canonical metadata, e.g. a creator of an object. Examples of PIDs include archival resource keys (ARKs), persistent URIs and digital object identifiers (DOIs). Generally a persistent identifier can be presented as an actionable link which can be used to access the resource or metadata about the resource.

<https://tanc-ahrc.github.io/PIDResources/>



Why use PIDs?

Persistent identifiers have a number of potential benefits. They allow you to reliably link to your collection around the web and in publications. They also make it easier to track the use of your resources where they are cited elsewhere.

Getting started



How to use this resource



Baseline implementation



Which PID does what?

Aspects of Developing PIDs for Collections

Aspects of Developing PIDs for Collections



Adding PIDs to existing metadata



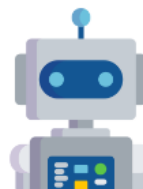
Identifying collection items with links



Managing persistent links locally



Human readable PIDs



Machine readable PIDs



Globally resolvable PIDs

Guidance on implementing identifiers



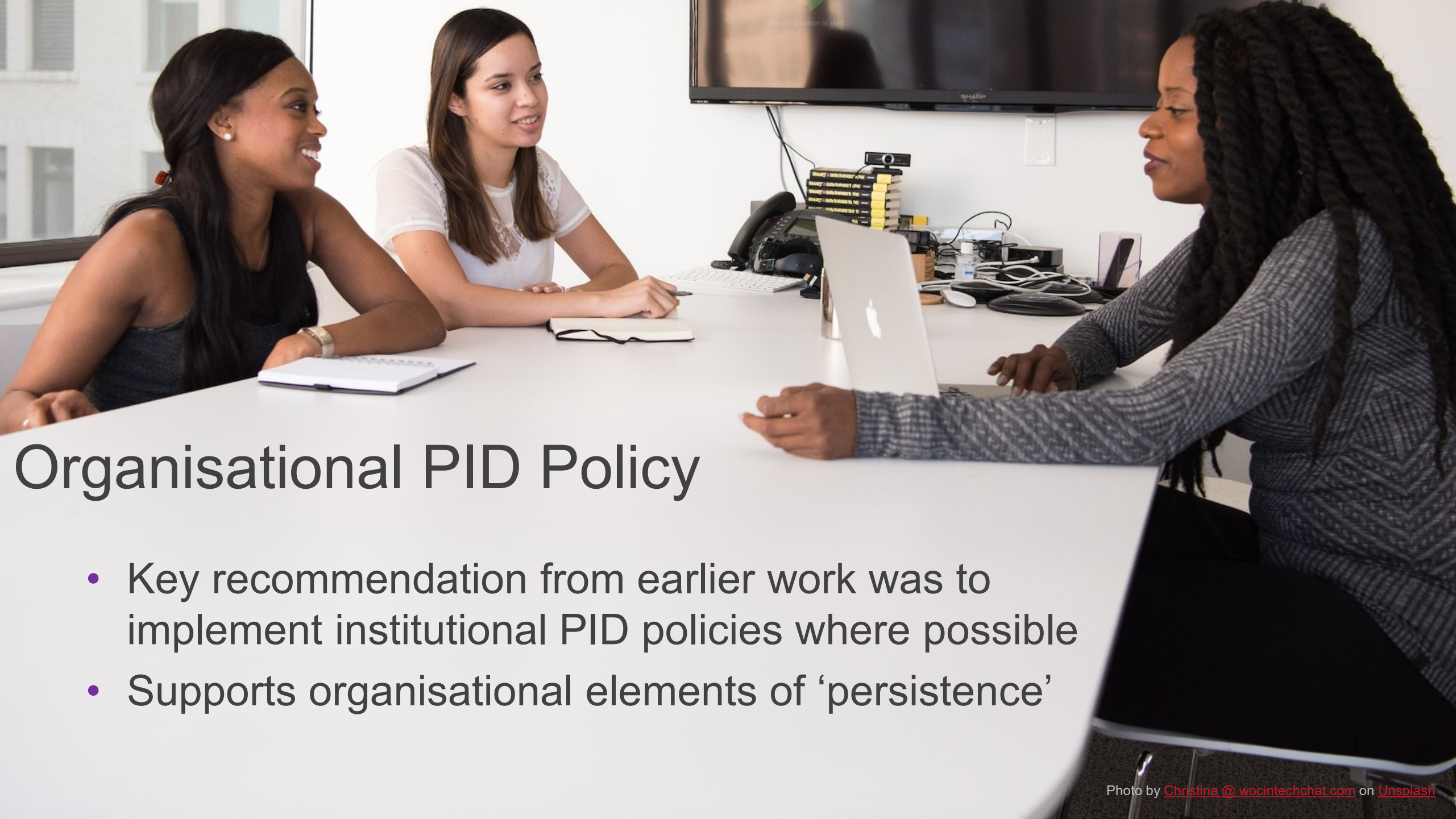
How to guarantee persistence?



How to implement human readable PIDs?



How to implement machine readable PIDs?

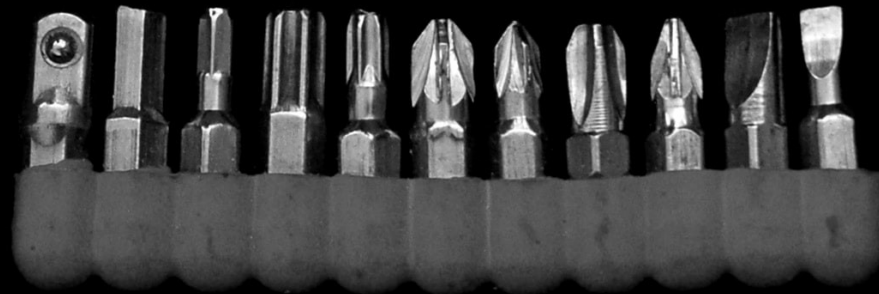


Organisational PID Policy

- Key recommendation from earlier work was to implement institutional PID policies where possible
- Supports organisational elements of 'persistence'

Benefits of having a policy

- Asking questions that you haven't asked yet
- Time to imagine future opportunities
- Clarity for decision-making
- Setting a clear direction
- Setting a pathway to innovation
- Setting timescales – especially for review of the policy itself



British Library Policy

- A policy was drafted early in 2021
- Takes inspiration from the BnF policy to shape:
 - Definition of PIDs
 - Recognition of the different ways PIDs are seen and used by the organisation
- Adds in pathways to adopt new PIDs as tools evolve



Policy itself: Types of PID use

Create: The Library 'mints' these identifiers, uses them to identify entities within the collection and provides them to others for their purposes, e.g. ISNI, ARKs, ISIL, ISSN, DOI

Contribute: The Library uses these identifiers, builds services based on them and has a role in their maintenance, but does not create them. Maintenance can include contributing to a central registry managed elsewhere and building services include using the identifier as an index term in Library systems, e.g., LCSH, LC/NACO

Consume: The Library uses these identifiers in their workflows but does not create or maintain them, e.g. ISRC, ISBN, ORCID

Policy itself: Principles, Requirements, Responsibilities

Persistence: 8 principles related to persistence. It also covers versioning, governance and resolvability

Established user community: Sets out the level of, and paths to, adoption

Interoperability: Ensuring PIDs in use can be linked to each other

New PID types or new uses: 3 principles that set out how the Library can adopt or support new PIDs or approaches

Requirements: 9 ways in which the Library should use PIDs across the organization. Not all the Library's PID use meets these at present

Responsibilities: Who monitors what



Ownership of the policy

- Jointly owned by BL Metadata and Technology departments
- Guidance and input from Content and Research Services
- Relevant for implementation, services, dependencies

All

News

Images

Shopping

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More

Tools

Collections SafeSearch



 Knight Ayton Manag...
Julian Richards - Knigh...



 Wikipedia
Julian Richards (director) - Wi...



 Audible
Julian Richards Audiobooks...



 The Heritage Journal - WordPr...
Inside the mind of... Julian Richar...




 University of York
Prof. Julian Richards - Archa...



 Westbury Festival
A Career in Ruins – a talk...




 Wikipedia
Julian C. Richards - Wi...



 Twitter
Julian Richards (@Archaem...




 Young Archaeologists' Club
Julian Richards - Young Archaeolo...



 Gold Hill Museum
Standing Room Only For Julian Richards ...




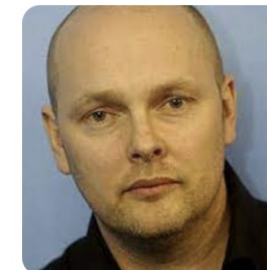
 University of Buckingham
Prof Julian Richards | Universit...




 Dorset View
TV archaeologist Julian Richards to ...




 Reeds Solicitors
Julian Richards - Reeds Solicitors LLP




 London Screenwriters' Fes...
julian richards | London Scre...




 Landscape and Monu...
Julian Richards at Megali...



 inDorset
Julian Richards on Stonehenge – Events ...



 Brussels International Fantastic Film Festival
Julian Richards – DADDY'S GIRL |




 Filmfestivals.com
VIDEO: Meet Julian Richa...



 BFI
Three lessons from Fantasporto 2020 ...



 Dread Central
HARD:LINE 2019 Exclusive: Director's ...



Identify yourselves!

HELLO
my name is

0000-0003-3938-899X



Links

BL Persistent Identifier Policy: <https://doi.org/10.23636/kwgh-pc35>

Heritage PIDs outputs: <https://tanc-ahrc.github.io/HeritagePIDs/resources.html>

