

# Institutional Identifiers

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# What we would like

- A single authority system to facilitate interoperability
- Rich list of of organizational entities and relationships
- Unambiguous institutional identifiers in publisher metadata feed
- Services to perform affiliation disambiguation and mapping

# Current Situation

- ISNI Institutional Identifiers recommended by NISO in 2013 report
- ORCID currently obtaining and using organizational records from Ringgold in profiles
- Many (most?) publishers using Ringgold in their manuscript submission systems
- INSPIRE has own HEP Institutions database
- Astro has AAS and IAU Institution lists

# ISNI

- Backed by large organizations including OCLC, BNF, The British Library, ProQuest
- Single database built from “hundreds” of repositories by merging & curating records
- Not clear how to search / access the database contents via API or dump
- In theory has most complete coverage of identities in the world

# Ringgold Identify

- 370K Institutional records, annual growth of ~20%
- 1172 records tagged as “Academic/Physics”
- 15-25 metadata fields per institution
- Institution/Faculty/School/Lab/Department level info, unlimited depth, multi-parent model
- Includes lists of acronyms, synonyms, ISNI mapping
- Historical coverage is poor (no coverage if 10 years or older)

# The ADS Institution Problem

## Astronomy:

- 2.04M bib records
- 3.14M affiliation signatures
- 844K normalized affiliations
- 2.5K institutions (guess)

## Physics:

- 7.15M bib records
- 18.28M affiliation signatures
- 3.7M normalized affiliations
- 7K institutions (guess)

# A Modest Proposal

- Why can't we just start exchanging institutional identifiers?
- Both ISNI and Ringgold encourage the propagation of IIDs through the “supply chain”
- It's not just about helping with ORCID, institutional membership is orthogonal problem
- With all the talk about ORCID, it's surprising we don't discuss this more often