LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Hatcher Graduate Library

913 South University Avenue
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1190
lib.umich.edu

August 28, 2015

To the Hydra Partner Steering Committee:

I write on behalf of the University of Michigan Library to accept your nomination to become a Hydra Partner, and to join the Hydra community in full commitment. Our investigation into Hydra as a technology tool began some three years ago as we searched for a solution to build out our research data service. Over the last year and a half, as we have delved deeper into the stack, compared its capabilities against our needs and requirements, and gauged the strength and durability of the community, that early recognition of Hydra as a way to meet a specific need has gradually expanded to a panoramic viewpoint. Today, we view Hydra as an enterprise platform for preservation, access, and discovery across our numerous content services.

Our intentions to use Hydra across the enterprise span our repository systems (IR, ETDs, and research data); content collections (images, video, text, exhibits); publishing systems (books and multi-part born digital publications); search systems; and learning and teaching systems (learning objects and LMS integration). We view Hydra as a platform upon which we can build UX frameworks that significantly advance our efforts in areas such as accessibility and interface design, and see opportunities for deep integration into the major pillars of our digital infrastructure: HathiTrust, DPN, and Unizin.

The strength, vibrancy, and richness of the Hydra community is compelling to us. We are motivated by partnership and collaboration with this community, more than simply use of the technology and tools. We have, to date, submitted the CLA agreements and have actively joined in several code sprints for PCDM and Sufia as we look towards the Fall launch of our research data service. The varied aspects of our activity and planning around Hydra are reflected in how we show up. The interest in and commitment to the community is organization-wide; last fall we sent over twenty participants to Hydra Connect from across five technology and service divisions; our showing this year will be equally strong, our enthusiasm tempered only by the registration limits.

We submit this application to be a Partner with confidence in the technology, enthusiasm for the community, and commitment to contributing. We look forward to a long and fruitful collaboration, and together achieving new benchmarks in preservation, access, and publishing.

Sincerely,

Maurice York
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Hydra Project
Partner Letter of Agreement

Hydra is an inter-institutional collaboration to build a common, open source framework for multi-function, multi-purpose, repository-powered applications. Hydra's ultimate objective is to produce a community-sourced, sustainable application framework that provides rich and robust repository-powered solutions as an integrated part of an overall digital content management architecture.

The **Collaboration and Partnership Memorandum of Understanding of the Hydra Originating Steering Group Members** (hereinafter "Hydra MOU") which is attached to this letter agreement and incorporated herein by reference describes the project background, intellectual property licensing and ownership, project membership and governance, the responsibilities of the four Hydra Steering Group members (Stanford University, University of Virginia, University of Hull, and MediaShelf LLC) and the responsibilities of Hydra Partners. As provided in the MOU:

Hydra Partners are institutions, corporations, individuals, or other groups that have committed to contributing to the Hydra community and wish to become fully participating Hydra Partners. They not only use the Hydra technical framework, but also add to it in at least one of many ways, including: code, analysis, design, support, funding, or other resources. Hydra Partners collectively advance the project and the community for the benefit of all participants. Partners get to attend Hydra Partner meetings, provide input on the community and technical direction, and represent Hydra to the broader community. Candidates can join Hydra Partners by being nominated by an existing partner to the Steering Group, and being voted in by the Steering Group. Hydra Partners can be voted out by a majority of the Steering Group members. Partner participation is a privilege not a right. New Hydra partners must execute the Partner agreement to be countersigned by a designated representative of the Hydra Steering Group.

By executing this letter agreement, the entity named below indicates its wish to join the Hydra Project as a Hydra Partner and further confirms that it has reviewed, understands and agrees with the terms outlined in the Hydra MOU. The applicant has been nominated by an existing Hydra Partner.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN   _(signature)_   8/28/15
Entity   Authorized Signature   Date

MAURICE YORK, AUL FOR LIBRARY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Authorized Signer's Printed Name   Title

Nominated by:_____(Existing Hydra Partner)

Application Accepted by the Hydra Steering Group: _____Yes_____No   Date:_____

Hydra Steering Group Authorized Signature:_____
                                          (Name)