March 25th, 2019

Dear Samvera Steering Members,

We are excited that the Samvera Steering Group has nominated us to become Samvera Partners. Please accept this letter as our official request to become a Samvera Partner. Enclosed are the signed MoU and the corporate CLA documents.

At J. Willard Marriott Library, we have been following the development and progress of the Samvera community, previously Hydra, since 2012 and our developers have attended nearly all of the previous Samvera Connect conferences. In 2018, the University of Utah, had the privilege to host this conference that was attended by well over 150 attendees. As part of Connect 2018, we were able to record, stream, and publish the majority of the sessions, while running a $14,500+ conference surplus that was returned to the Samvera Community.

The Marriott Library has been using Samvera based applications, including Sufia and Hyrax, for the past three years. We are working on integrating Avalon Media Systems into our Digital Library Infrastructure and plan to develop functionality that will contribute back to the community. University of Utah's Research Data Repository, The Hive, deployed two years ago was originally built on Sufia 7.3 framework. We have since developed custom features and functionality for this application and are preparing to migrate this system to Hyrax 2.4.1.

In 2017, the University of Utah and the Boston Public Library were awarded a $249,999 IMLS grant to develop a Ruby gem that will add newspaper specific functionality to Hyrax-based applications. In addition, The University of Utah and Boston Public Library (BPL) created and currently manage the Samvera Newspapers Interest group. In addition to these contributions, member of our team actively work with many Samvera WG/IGs, including: Samvera Connect, Samvera Virtual Connect, the Repository Managers IG, the Newspapers IG, and the Samvera Interest Group for Advising the Hyrax Roadmap.

The University of Utah is deeply engaged with Samvera community and we are committed to continuing our engagement in various ways including participating in Working Group (WG) and Interest Group (IG) efforts, developing code and documentation, and helping to ensure the sustainability of community projects. We look forward to collaborating with Samvera users and developers in the future and helping to support the sustainability and mission of the community.

Sincerely,

Harish Maringanti
Associate Dean for IT & Digital Library Services
J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah
801.581.8001
harish.maringanti@utah.edu

Brian McBride
Head, Digital Infrastructure Development
Marriott Library, University of Utah
801.585.7613
brian.mcbride@utah.edu