

Yale UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

May 21, 2013

Thomas J. Cramer
Chief Technology Strategist
Stanford University Libraries
210 Meyer Library
Stanford, CA 94305-6069

Dear Hydra Steering Group,

At the behest of Tom Cramer at Stanford University, I am writing to express Yale University's offer of commitment to become a partner on the Hydra project.

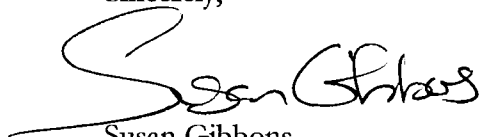
We have been deploying Fedora digital collections for a number of years, but committed in the fall of 2012 to Hydra as a development platform going forward. Since then, we have found the Hydra community to provide invaluable resources and partners. Our first Hydra-based digital collections are scheduled to go live in September 2013, and we have an aggressive plan to migrate dozens of additional collections on obsolete platforms into Hydra in 2014, along with several new collections. Many of these collections involve complex objects, non-Western languages, and have highly granular access requirements, so we expect to stretch Hydra to its limits.

Several Hydra projects are already on our agenda for the year ahead:

- We are actively working on a partnership with Columbia University and MIT to turn Ladybird (our cataloging and ingest tool) into an open source application and potentially a Hydra head.
- We are planning to adapt Columbia University's "CLIO Beta" Blacklight project as our primary search interface, and are interested in pursuing further usability testing and interface refinement with Columbia and other interested partners. Our User Experience group would offer staff time for this.
- Pending grant funding, we will be able to offer programming support to work on moving Open GeoPortal into a production Hydra head.
- Avalon is a product that would assist us in our A/V needs and we would be interested in collaborating on future development.

The Hydra platform and Hydra community are critical to our digital preservation and dissemination strategy going forward. I look forward to a productive partnership in the years ahead.

Sincerely,



Susan Gibbons
University Librarian

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