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Cal Poly Library Receives 2014 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award

Kennedy Library is first University Library in California to Receive the Honor

SAN LUIS OBISPO — The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) has named Cal Poly's Robert E. Kennedy Library as a recipient of the 2014 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award.

Sponsored by ACRL and YBP Library Services, the award recognizes library staff and programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution. ACRL awards are given out in university, college and community college categories.

The Kennedy Library was selected in the university category for its innovations in student engagement.

Joyce Ogburn, chair of the 2014 Excellence in Academic Libraries Committee and dean of libraries at Appalachian State University, cited Kennedy Library's emphasis on being open, inclusive and connected.

"The committee noted the level of student engagement and partnerships across campus," Ogburn said. "We were taken by the LibRATs (Library Research Assistance Technicians) program, in which highly trained students provide instruction and help other students with research. Among the library's other innovations are development of a Data Studio to address data literacy and instigation of access to and development of open access textbooks to decrease costs for students."

Cal Poly President Jeffrey D. Armstrong said, "The Kennedy Library is the beating heart of Cal Poly's Learn by Doing education and a nexus for all the disciplines that make up our comprehensive polytechnic curriculum. I am proud of the work our library staff does every day to fulfill this role, and I am thrilled at this recognition of their stellar efforts."

The Kennedy Library is the first university library in California to receive the award since it was first given in 2000. The library will receive \$3,000 at a ceremony to be held on campus during spring quarter.

"Kennedy Library is proud to be an important part of Cal Poly's cross-disciplinary excellence," said University Librarian Anna K. Gold. "Our culture of innovation reflects the strengths of Cal Poly's students, faculty and staff. Our many partnerships and collaborations have been key to our ability to have an impact on learning and research throughout our campus community."

Additional information on the award, along with a list of past winners, is available on [the ACRL website](#).

For more on the Kennedy Library, visit <http://lib.calpoly.edu>.

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