

Casey Duevel Receives Minnesota Academic Innovator Award

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Casey Duevel Honored for Transforming Academic Library Services at Minnesota State University, Mankato

The Minnesota Library Association's Academic & Research Libraries Division (ARLD) is proud to announce **Casey Duevel of Minnesota State University, Mankato** as the recipient of the **2026 Minnesota Academic Innovator Award**.

The award recognizes academic librarians and project teams whose innovative work advances the mission of academic libraries throughout Minnesota.

Duevel was recognized for her leadership in developing a collaborative **Library Learning Commons** at Minnesota State University, Mankato. The project demonstrated innovation through extensive research into learning commons models nationwide, the development of deep partnerships across the university, and the transformation of traditional reference services to better meet evolving student needs.

The selection committee praised Duevel's ability to bring together stakeholders from across campus while creating a modern, collaborative learning environment that enhances student success and engagement.

The award was presented during the ARLD Day event this past April.

About the Minnesota Library Association

The Minnesota Library Association advances excellence in library services, supports library workers across the state, and promotes equitable access to information for all Minnesotans.

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