Dickinson College
Division of Library and Information Services
Fiscal Year 2006 Goals

1. Create an Library and Information Services Roadmap. The Trustees of Dickinson College will in May 2005 review the next five year phase of the Dickinson College Strategic Plan. Information services play a key role in this plan and in supporting the aspirations of the campus. Whereas the Division of Library and Information Services (LIS) has been successful in moving the College forward as it applies information technology to how it conducts its business, how students learn and in how faculty pursue scholarship, no single view of the division's efforts exists. LIS will create a 'roadmap', or high level view of how major library and information services initiatives will unfold over the next three to five years. This roadmap will highlight major developments, such as the 1College Project, the migration to a new network operating system, and Voice Over IP, and will depict 'what will happen when'. Like any roadmap, this document will be subject to revision. However, it will convey to trustees, faculty, administrators, staff and students, a vision for library and information services matched to the next phase of the Strategic Plan.

2. Move the campus network to a secure foundation using Microsoft Server System. The campus network presently uses Microsoft NT 4.0 as its operating system. Microsoft announced in 2001 that it would discontinue this product and in December 2004 it will cease normal support. Support will continue for an undefined period, but at increasingly levels of cost. Microsoft will at some point in the near future cease all support for the product, leaving the campus network exposed to an unacceptable level of risk. LIS will migrate the campus to the successor product, Microsoft Windows Server System. Since this migration affects hundreds of desktop computers on campus, including Apple Macintoshes used primarily by faculty, LIS will create a lab in South College to test configurations and thereby minimize disruption to end users. The goal of this project will be to complete the migration by Fall 2005.

3. Support the 1College Project. In November 2004 the Trustees approved a project to replace the Datatel administrative computing product with SCT Banner. The College negotiated contracts with SCT Banner to license the SCT software and with Smart Associates to partner with College staff to implement the product in an eighteen month timeframe. LIS has mobilized staff from across the division to support the project and has reconstituted the Institutional Systems Department to both continue to operate the legacy Datatel application and to support the new product.

4. Extend the wireless network. In fiscal year 2005, LIS implemented wireless computing (WiFi) services in the Waidner-Spahr Library and in the Quarry. It plans in to extend the wireless network by implementing wireless in the Holland Union Building, thereby creating a contiguous corridor of WiFi service at the core of the campus. LIS will consult with the All Campus Committee on Information Technology and Services with regard to the next phases of the wireless implementation.

5. <u>Create a library collection development strategy that balances print and digital collections</u>. The library has in recent years spent an increasing proportion of its collection budget on electronic products. These products provide access to scholarly information seven days a week, twenty four hours a day, every day of the year. They are accessible both from campus and from home. They also offer features such as full text searching that cannot be supported by print sources. While useful and popular, electronic sources also pose questions for librarians building a coherent and sustainable collection. If a source exists in both print and electronic form, should the latter be favored? If an electronic source can be relied upon to exist in perpetuity, should its print version be discarded? What is the optimal mix of print and electronic sources? These questions speak to the future of the Dickinson College Library and call for consultation with the campus community, including the All-College Committee On Academic Program And Standards.

6. <u>Align staff and resources to support language instruction and the Global Education program</u>. The College's language and international programs are a distinguishing characteristic of the institution. Whereas instructional technology professionals have in the past been adept at identifying and applying information technologies to support these areas, the creation of LIS opens the door to more integrated and innovative approaches. LIS will create a cross functional team of LIS staff drawn from across the division to support these programs. The division will also suggest to Global Education that one of its staff visit one or more international location to learn first hand about the needs of faculty and students engaged in this uniquely Dickinson form of learning.