SLIS Strategic Plan

Mission Statement
The mission of the School of Library and Information Science is to prepare qualified individuals for professional roles in libraries, archives, and other information environments with appropriate knowledge and skills to serve the information needs of their communities.

Values
The School of Library and Information Science is committed to:

- **Student-centered learning:** We are committed to cultivating an active, student-centered learning community.
- **Diversity:** We recognize and value the diversity of modern society and support inclusiveness in learning.
- **Intellectual freedom:** We embrace the ideals of intellectual and academic freedom and strive to nurture an open, respectful learning environment for the free exchange of ideas.
- **Service:** Because we believe that it is a core of the profession, we support service at all levels and encourage ongoing professional development as a means of enhancing skills and knowledge.
- **Community:** We believe in creating, fostering, and participating in learning and research communities that span borders on state, national, and international levels.
- **Research:** We believe that research is an essential part of scholarship, not just for the creation of new knowledge but also for the support of teaching and learning and the sharing of new knowledge with multiple communities of interest.

Educational Goals

**Goal 1. Knowledge of and commitment to ethical practices**
To foster and promote among master’s degree candidates a knowledge of and commitment to ethical practices on the part of library and information professionals.

- **Objective 1:** Interpret the Library Bill of Rights
- **Objective 2:** Develop balanced collection policies group project

**Goal 2. Professional practice and training experiences**
To demonstrate knowledge of the basic tenets of reference through the location and evaluation of appropriate reference sources to meet the informational needs of their patrons and the basic tenets of cataloging through cataloging and classification exercises.

- **Objective 1:** Demonstrate the role of the library and of the librarian in the information-seeking process.
Objective 2: Demonstrate ability to catalog a variety of materials so that they are readily accessible to patrons served by a library or information center.

Goal 3. Knowledge of the LIS literature
To demonstrate knowledge of the body of literature related to the discipline of library and information science.

- **Objective 1:** Locate and evaluate library management articles

- **Objective 2:** Create annotated bibliography of IS research

Goal 4. Engagement in research
To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of scholarly LIS research and demonstrate the ability to identify and apply appropriate research methodology to specific problems in library and information science.

- **Objective 1:** Conduct bibliometric research

- **Objective 2:** Demonstrate an understanding of the process and role of research in the field of library and information science through the completion of an original research project and report.

Goal 5. Technical competency
To develop an awareness of the use of technology in libraries and participate in technology applications to advance their skills and experiences.

- **Objective 1:** Create a multimedia vodcast or podcast

- **Objective 2:** Create an e-portfolio or website.

Administrative Goals
The School of Library and Information Science’s administrative goals will support the University and College of Education and Psychology’s current areas of strategic focus.

**Goal 1: Maintain recognition as a strong, accredited provider of library and information science education and training.**

- **Objective 1:** Continue providing reasonable access to LIS education programs through accessible scheduling and diverse methods of teaching.

- **Objective 2:** Promote departmental scholarship and assistantship opportunities at state, regional, and national levels.

- **Objective 3:** Sustain quality of MLIS program by maintaining ALA accreditation.

- **Objective 4:** Prepare graduates for the current LIS job market.
• **Objective 5:** Maintain an inclusive community of learners that reflects and respects diversity of people and ideas.

**Goal 2: Enhance the visibility of SLIS programs and faculty.**

• **Objective 1:** Seek opportunities for collaboration with faculty from other departments or academic units.

• **Objective 2:** Distribute information on the accomplishments of the SLIS community.

• **Objective 3:** Faculty members maintain active memberships in appropriate professional and academic organizations.

**Goal 3: Support targeted and strategic enrollment growth in undergraduate and graduate programs.**

• **Objective 1:** Identify additional opportunities and/or methods for recruiting students into our undergraduate and graduate programs.

• **Objective 2:** Identify additional opportunities and/or methods for recruiting transfer students into the undergraduate program.

• **Objective 3:** Support institutional promotional activities.

**Goal 4: Foster retention, progression, and graduation in LIS programs.**

• **Objective 1:** Participate in and utilize all available student support services.

• **Objective 2:** Add student support statement and contact links to course syllabi.

**Goal 5: Emphasize professional development for faculty and students.**

• **Objective 1:** Introduce relevant professional associations in all relevant courses (e.g., Library Management would introduce the ALA management special interest group, Reference RUSA, etc.).

• **Objective 2:** Faculty members participate in professional development activities (as resources permit).

• **Objective 3:** Enhance student education with opportunities for professional development and training.

**Goal 6: Maintain and develop connections with stakeholders to further the mission of the School of Library and Information Science.**

• **Objective 1:** Explore possibilities for increasing cross-discipline course offerings, joint degrees and/or additional electives from other departments.
• **Objective 2**: Maintain official status for our SLIS student associations.

**Goal 7: Support student research activities.**

• **Objective 1**: Seek opportunities to mentor student research activities.

• **Objective 2**: Seek opportunities to collaborate with students on research.

• **Objective 3**: Encourage and support student scholarly communication.

**Goal 8: Review departmental processes, objectives, and activities as necessary for continuous accreditation.** (see ALA’s *Resources for LIS Program Administrators*: www.ala.org/accreditedprograms/standards)

• **Objective 1**: Regularly review SLIS mission, goals, and objectives.

• **Objective 2**: Regularly review curricular objectives to support established professional competencies.

• **Objective 3**: Regularly review and update student policies and procedures.

**Goal 9: Contribute to scholarship.**

• **Objective 1**: Establish scholarly profiles through appropriate venues and tools.

• **Objective 2**: Participate in funding initiatives.

• **Objective 3**: Contribute to scholarly and professional publications.

• **Objective 4**: Participate in institutional scholarly activities.

• **Objective 5**: Participate in external scholarly activities.