Strategic Priorities

COLLEGE OF LAW

1. Participation in University research efforts (such as law-psychology, water, employee benefits and ethics), with goals of increasing awareness of opportunities for such University efforts and production of publications by faculty in their areas of research. Obvious relation to multiple core values. Internal actions: Continue to support faculty interests in relevant and emerging areas. Actions by others: Financial contributions commensurate with efforts by faculty that fall outside the faculty’s normal responsibilities. Time: Increases by 2007-2008 academic year in a) faculty participation in such efforts; b) publications by faculty in relevant areas; and c) increased research grants by relevant research groups.

2. Increase faculty research capabilities and enhance public functions of library by attaining sufficient library funding to maintain present collection and to increase acquisitions budget to accommodate modern collection development. Obvious relation to multiple core values. Internal actions: Continue to provide support as available. Actions by others: Increased financial contributions. Time: Eliminate one-third of gap between UNL state funding for acquisitions budget and budget for average of peer institutions each year for next three years (UNL state funding currently: $228,000; Peer average: $1,164,000.)

3. Make faculty salaries competitive with peers (currently 13.9% below midpoint) and no worse than comparisons for other colleges at UNL (overall UNL trails peers by "only" 4.4%) to improve competitiveness in ongoing efforts to increase faculty diversity and maintain faculty quality. Obvious relation to multiple core values. Internal actions: Continue to provide support as available. Actions by others: Increased financial contributions. Time: Eliminate one-third of gap each year for three years (for both goals).

4. Obtain State/University support to deal with major infrastructure problems with facility, including sprinklers, problems with shifting/cracking foundation. Core Values: Students and faculty cannot approach high standards of core values in a crumbling building. Internal actions: College has already invested approximately $10 million in facilities improvements and intends to continue. Actions by others: College cannot obtain outside support for these types of basic infrastructure needs; state and university need to provide for these basic requirements. Time: Complete half of needed improvements by end of summer, 2005; complete remainder by end of summer, 2006.

5. Continued national recognition in areas coinciding with faculty research agendas through a variety of means, including traditional legal scholarship, multidisciplinary work, and publications in on-line and other forms of new media. Obvious relation to multiple core values. Internal actions: Continue to support faculty efforts in traditional ways. Actions by others: Continued
support in traditional ways. Time: Increases in institutional quality indicators measuring three-year rolling averages at end of 2007-2008 and 2009-2010 academic years.

6 Hire additional employees to permit adequate staffing for technology needs, including especially instructional technology. Core Values: Central to all teaching and research activities of faculty, staff and students. Internal actions: Continue to provide support as available. Actions by others: Additional funding for staff. Time: Accomplish by end of 2005-2006 academic year.

7 The College's complete strategic plan contains thirteen additional goals, with timetables. Copies are available from Dean Willborn.