Vision and Strategic Directions

**Vision**

Our history is characterized by a fierce belief in the power of liberal education, an engagement with the world around us, responsiveness to the needs of society, an enduring commitment to our Catholic and Benedictine Heritage, and an unwavering focus on women’s development as leaders, professionals, and scholars. We envision our future as grounded in these same commitments, and we embrace the changes and challenges impacting the world with the same courage, strength, and boldness of our foremothers.

**Strategic Directions 2015**

**Unparalleled and Distinctive Opportunities for Women**

*The College of Saint Benedict will offer to women unparalleled opportunities linking the liberal arts and sciences with professional preparation, civic engagement, leadership and global competence.*

**Exemplary Undergraduate Education in Partnership with Saint John’s University**

*The College of Saint Benedict will partner with Saint John’s University to provide an exemplary liberal arts education with a strategic focus on scholarship and creativity, mentorship, global citizenship, values-based leadership, and spiritual development.*

*Scholarship and Creativity:* We will provide opportunities for the imaginative exploration of ideas, focusing on active and experiential student learning, cutting-edge exploration and pedagogy, and undergraduate research.

*Mentorship:* We will provide a highly personal community experience, focusing on small, learner-centered classroom experiences and strong student-faculty and residential relationships.

*Global Citizenship:* We will provide opportunities for students to engage, learn from, and work with people from a rich variety of cultural backgrounds and identities.

*Values-based Leadership:* We will provide opportunities for students to develop habits of social, cultural, and intellectual engagement and initiative for the common good.

*Spiritual Development:* We will provide opportunities for students to develop habits of prayer and critical reflection about meaning, values, and purpose in their lives.
Financial Sustainability and Growth
The College of Saint Benedict will consolidate and strengthen its financial position and debt capacity through endowment growth, sustained annual giving, enhanced alumnae participation, and contributions to reserves.

Facilities for Learning, Living, and Wellness
The College of Saint Benedict will create model environments for student learning, faculty and student scholarship, co-curricular activity, residential life, and sustainable community.

Sustaining our Community
The College of Saint Benedict will recruit and retain a multi-talented and richly diverse community of students, faculty, and staff.

Building Community Partnerships
The College of Saint Benedict will be a partner in an effective and sustainable collaboration with the City of St. Joseph and the broader local community.

Model Leadership
The College of Saint Benedict will model best practices in shared governance and administrative leadership.

Visible Excellence
The College of Saint Benedict will enhanced earned visibility for the strengths and accomplishments of our community members, including students, faculty, staff, alumnae and Board members.