Dear Colleagues,

As we enter the homestretch of the academic year, I am writing to draw your attention to several important Faculty Senate matters:

**2006 Revision to the Faculty Manual**
First and of the greatest significance to all of us, on April 25th at our last meeting of the year, the Senate will vote on Draft Revision 8 of the Faculty Manual. As was the case with an earlier draft revision a year ago, Draft Revision 8 is recommended by our Executive Committee for Senate approval on an up or down majority vote. Draft Revision 8 is the product of many days of discussions among the President, the Provost, the General Counsel’s Office, the Faculty Senate Faculty Manual Subcommittee, and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. While no one involved in the revision process is perfectly happy with every provision, it is fair to say that the document represents a genuine consensus on all matters of major import. You can review Draft Revision 8 (in comparison with the existing 1994 version of the Faculty Manual), the Recommended Revision Approved by the Faculty Senate in April of last year, and a Summary of Substantive Changes between Draft Revision 8 and last year’s version here. Please forward any comments you might have about Draft Revision 8 to the Senators representing your College, School or Library. We are confident that, after approval by the Faculty Senate, Draft Revision 8 will be approved by the Provost and by the President of the University, and that it will be adopted by the Board of Trustees at its May meeting. You are reminded, however, that the 1994 Faculty Manual is in effect until the revision is adopted by the Board.

**Faculty Senate Elections**
In addition to the vote on the Faculty Manual, the Senate will hold our annual election of officers at the April 25th meeting. We have two well-qualified candidates for President-elect – Matt Mancini and Miriam Joseph. That person will serve one year as President-elect and will begin his or her two-year term as President in April 2007. Additionally, the Senate will elect a Secretary and two new members to our Executive Committee.

This is also the time of the year to select new Faculty Senators. In this regard, the chairperson of each college, school or library’s faculty assembly will soon be notified of the number of new Senators the unit is eligible to elect. I want to take this opportunity to encourage each of you to seriously consider a candidacy. As you know, the Faculty Senate is the primary voice of the faculty on matters of general University-wide concern. And as may have become apparent from communications from Rick Breslin and me over the past several years and from the minutes of our meetings (which can be found here), the work of the Senate ranges across many important matters and has played a constructive role in the governance of the University. The time commitments of Faculty Senators are modest, but the rewards personally and to the institution of which we are a part are substantial.

**The Slosar Award**
Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to solicit nominations for The John A. Slosar Shared Governance Award, which is given “to honor and recognize a faculty member who has provided outstanding contributions to the practice of shared governance at Saint Louis University.” The award is open to all full-time faculty at the assistant professor rank or above who have five years or more of service at the University. Additional criteria and procedures for grant of the award can be found here. Please forward nominations by Wednesday, May 3rd, to Jeanne Donnelly, chair of the Awards Subcommittee, at donneljm@slu.edu.
On behalf of the Senate, let me wish each of you a successful and rewarding winding-up of the academic year.

John Griesbach,
Faculty Senate President