TO ALL FULL TIME FACULTY AND STAFF:

RE: The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 Mastectomy Benefit Notification

The 1998 Omnibus Budget Bill included a provision that requires all health plans that include coverage for mastectomies also provide coverage to a plan participant who elects breast reconstruction in connection with such a mastectomy. The coverages include:

- 1. reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed;
- 2. surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce symmetrical appearance;
- 3. prostheses; and
- 4. coverage for physical complications of all stages of mastectomy, including lymphedemas; in a matter determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient.

All Saint Louis University medical plans available to employees have contained these benefits for a long time. However, the law also requires that we send this notification letter on an annual basis to each participant.

This notice is being distributed simply to comply with the law.