Dear Colleagues:

As you know, the recent escalating spate of bomb threats has been disruptive to the education of many of our students. I know that all of you are concerned about the impact this is having on them and are working to continue instruction during evacuations, in many cases in imaginative ways. As the University works to end these threats, our students should not be penalized and we need you to devise ways to accommodate our students so that they can complete coursework they miss.

To this end, while the University will remain open and classes will continue to be held, I ask that you waive any attendance policy you may have and that you make arrangements for students to make up any coursework they miss during this period. Some options include:

- **CourseWeb.** Many of you already use this technology which is an excellent way to communicate with students. Information (including contact information) can be found at: http://www.cidde.pitt.edu/technology/coursewebblackboard.
- **WebEx.** This is a web conferencing service we can provide that will enable you to conduct a live lecture over the internet with up to 200 students. Our computing services department is developing just-in-time instructions for how to access this technology. Please contact the Help Desk at (412) 624-4357 for more information.
- **Schedule make-up sessions.** Saturday April 14 and 21 have been designated as make-up days: The Office of the Registrar is assigning classrooms for faculty who request them for make-up classes. Please see departmental contacts in your school who have received the necessary paperwork.

As the Chancellor said in his update to the University community earlier this week, the inability to bring this succession of threats to a quick end obviously is a source of frustration for everyone, but law enforcement professionals are doing everything they can to pursue all possible leads.
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As a faculty member you play a very important role with our students during this
difficult and distracting time for them. I encourage you to continue the calming effect you have
on them by listening to their concerns and showing consideration of their individual needs. You
should be aware that the Office of Student Affairs is providing counseling sessions for individual
students, if that becomes necessary. Any phone or email inquiries from parents should be
forwarded to (412) 648-2008 or inquiry@pitt.edu.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Patricia E. Beeson