April 7, 2012

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I fully understand your concerns about the recent bomb threats on the University of Pittsburgh campus and want to provide you with some additional information about the situation.

First and foremost, I want to reiterate that the safety of our students, faculty and staff is our primary concern, and that no explosive devices have been found in any of our buildings after thorough evacuations and searches. We will continue to increase the police presence and security on campus and work with the FBI, the U. S. Attorney’s office and local authorities to bring an end to these threats. Additional information including Campus Updates from the Chancellor and a statement from U.S. Attorney David J. Hickton can be found on our Campus Safety Update page [http://www.pitt.edu/campus-safety.html](http://www.pitt.edu/campus-safety.html).

The University will remain open and classes will continue to meet. Most classes have been unaffected by the threats and continue meeting on a regular basis. Even in the unfortunate circumstances in which specific classes have been disrupted, many faculty members continue their instruction, sometimes in imaginative ways in open spaces around the University. In situations where this isn’t possible, faculty members are dedicated to making alternative accommodations for students so they can complete the coursework they miss. Approaches faculty might take include make-up sessions in alternative locations and the use of Web technologies for remote instruction. As we work to end these threats, faculty have been advised to be as flexible as possible in helping students to complete their coursework, but students will need to stay in contact with faculty members in order to do so.

Please be confident that we are working diligently and tirelessly to identify the person or persons responsible for these intolerable acts that have disrupted our campus and the lives of our students and their families. You should also be aware that the University Counseling Center (412-648-7930) is providing counseling sessions for individuals, if that becomes necessary for your student.

Thank you for your on-going patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Kathy Humphrey, PhD
Vice Provost and Dean of Students