Subject: University-wide Cost Savings on Cellular Call-plans and Devices: AT&T Mobility, Verizon Wireless, and T-Mobile

In response to increasing use of smart phones, personal digital assistants (PDAs) and iPhones, the University of Pittsburgh’s Office of Budget and Controller and Computing Services & Systems Development (CSSD) have undertaken an extensive and detailed review of the University’s expenditures on cellular services.

As a result of this review, the University has negotiated new agreements with AT&T Mobility and Verizon Wireless. These new agreements include the following features: Migration of all existing University wireless plans to a shared or pooled plan structure; increases in discounts for University-paid Verizon and AT&T wireless plans to 20%; increases in discounts for employees’ Verizon personal wireless plans to 20%; and improved functionality for the University to manage the allocation of wireless plans with each wireless provider. The net result of these new agreements will be an annual savings to University departments totaling approximately $226,000 per year for wireless services.

The University has also achieved a cost savings agreement with T-Mobile, which will offer a more cost effective bundled plan of services, and a 15% discount to University departments and employees for BlackBerry devices.

Starting as early as October 2010, CSSD will begin a transparent migration of the existing University-paid AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile call plans to a revised portfolio of pooled or shared plans and new discount structures. CSSD will notify the business managers in each responsibility center of the devices that will be affected from the adoption of the shared plans. Your existing cell-phone numbers, your present device, and your provider of choice will remain the same.

Future announcements regarding the University’s cellular plan migration will be forthcoming. An FAQ has been established, which should address any questions or concerns in this regard. Please visit: www.bc.pitt.edu/purchasing/CellularFAQ.pdf.

Arthur G. Ramicone  
Vice Chancellor  
Office of Budget and Controller  
University of Pittsburgh

Jinx Walton  
Chief Information Officer  
Computer Services and Systems Development  
University of Pittsburgh