Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the start of your 2018-19 Benefits Open Enrollment period on Wednesday, May 23, 2018. There are some updates to the University Benefits offerings, which I am excited to share with you. This is the best time to review your benefits elections, ensure you have current dependents listed, and make changes to your elections, if necessary. Don’t forget: Open Enrollment is your once-a-year opportunity to make changes to the benefits you have elected, unless you experience a qualified status change.

**What's New This Year?**

The medical plans provided by the University continue to be some of the most competitive across the nation and among other employers. This year, medical premiums will be held to a 2% increase, and no changes will be made to the design of the four offered plans. We are proud to keep premium increases at a minimum, which fall well below national trends. As in the past, the University will continue to fund 80% of the total medical premiums, while faculty and staff incur 20% of the cost.

**Focus on Wellness**

In this Year of Healthy U, and as our community grows, we have renewed our focus on wellness, which can be seen in the many initiatives and activities that are available throughout the year, including:

- a Health and Wellness Center, available to Pittsburgh faculty and staff with no copayment;
- an on-site health coach from UPMC Health Plan for the Pittsburgh campus;
- Comprehensive Medication Management with the School of Pharmacy for faculty and staff with UPMC Health Plan coverage;
- biometric screenings offered to all University faculty and staff members with UPMC Health Plan coverage; and
- an assistance program (Life Solutions) for faculty and staff, their domestic partners/spouses, and families.

We are continuing to expand and promote wellness opportunities to the community. Become a wellness champion by supporting our efforts or by creating your own Wellness for Life plan with our new Dimensions of Wellness resources, online at hr.pitt.edu/dimensions. Together, we can make healthy lifestyle choices to improve our well-being to make a Healthy U, and a Healthy Us.

**Explore Your Benefits Today**

To continue our move to an online format, all of the Open Enrollment materials, including the Summary Guide to Benefits, can be found at openenroll.hr.pitt.edu. A printed version can be sent to you by emailing your request to hr-benque@pitt.edu.

I encourage you to read all of the materials carefully, and to make any changes to your elections from **Wednesday, May 23 through Wednesday, June 13**. If you would like to make changes to your current benefit elections, you must complete and submit an enrollment form to the Benefits Department by Wednesday, June 13th. The form can be downloaded from the Benefits Department website at www.hr.pitt.edu/forms. The completed form can be faxed to the Benefits Department at 412-624-3485 or can be mailed to the Benefits Department at 320 Craig Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15260. Forms are NOT accepted via e-mail because of the University's security policy on the transmission of personal information. As always, feel free to contact the Benefits Department at 412-624-8160 or hr-benque@pitt.edu if you have any questions.

Best wishes for another great year.

Sincerely,

Cheryl L. Johnson
Vice Chancellor, Human Resources