As we enter the 2010-2011 academic year, we remind you to remain vigilant and keep safety and security precautions in mind. Thank you for your help and support last year as we addressed and responded to the pandemic emergency period resulting from the Influenza A H1N1 virus. We also appreciate efforts to remain observant and prepared in regard to natural disaster and incident response.

In preparation for the new semester, we ask faculty to take the following steps to ensure students and classes are prepared:

1. Insert a paragraph into your syllabus explaining that emergencies may necessitate a change in the course. Preformatted information is available at: http://www.itap.purdue.edu/tlt/faculty/

2. Take a few minutes of class time to review Emergency Response procedures with students. Preparedness information can be found on the Emergency Preparedness website and building specific information is found in the Building Emergency Plan (BEP). The Building Emergency Plan is normally maintained by the Building Deputy. The Emergency Procedures Handbook (EPH) can be viewed at http://www.purdue.edu/fire/safety_handbook.pdf. We encourage all faculty and staff to review both documents for emergency response procedures. Specific “shelter in place” guidelines can be found on page 18 of the EPH for any occasion when the All Hazards Outdoor Emergency Sirens sound.

3. Please let students know that updates and emergency information will be posted on Purdue’s home page and urge your students to sign up for emergency text alerts. Text message sign up procedures can be found on the Emergency Preparedness website: http://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness/
4. Develop a method of mass communication on email or text messaging so you can alert students of cancellation of class or assignments. Help is available at http://www.itap.purdue.edu/tlt/faculty/

We encourage all faculty and staff to regularly review emergency planning information.

Thank you for your help and cooperation in keeping our Purdue community a safe place to work, study and live.