DATE: April 6, 2017
TO: KU Faculty, Staff, and Students
FROM: University Senate President Joe Harrington
RE: Notification of Proposed Amendments to University Senate Rules and Regulations--USRR 1.3.10 and 1.4.6 (Exams)

The proposed amendments USRR 1.3.10 and 1.4.6 (below) will be discussed at the University Senate meeting on April 13, 2017, and voted on at the meeting on April 27, 2017. (A vote may be taken on April 13, 2017 if two-thirds of the members present approve voting on the amendments). Both meetings will be held in Room 203 Green Hall (Law School) at 3:15 p.m. The meetings are open to members of the University community.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed amendments to the Office of University Governance (email: govern@ku.edu) by noon on Thursday, April 13, 2017. Please note that proposed changes to the University Senate Rules & Regulations are required to be sent to all faculty, staff, and students, but no action is required on your part unless you wish to submit a written comment. (Since proposed USRR 1.3.10 and 1.4.6 would be new regulations, there are no edits shown in strikeouts or bold and highlighted text as is usually the case with amendments sent to the University community for consideration).

Please contact me (jharring@ku.edu) if you have any questions about this amendment.

Proposed Amendments--USRR 1.3.10 and 1.4.6
Approved by Student Senate April 5, 2017

Rationale (excerpted from Student Senate Final Bill Number 2017-315):
The necessity to protect students inundated by a life-changing event is currently unaddressed in the current USRR. There currently exists protections in the USRR for "Students with a verifiable medical crisis of a relative or friend." [However] many of these life-changing events primarily effect older, non-traditional and graduate students, who can least afford the lack of protection. Students should not be punished due to the dictates of capitalism or bureaucracy especially in regard to the free-market availability of goods and services.

USRR 1.3.10 Students with a verifiable qualifying life event, (as defined by the IRS) or witnessing a qualifying life event for an immediate family member, may be excused from being present for the final examination. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate discussion with the instructor, prior to the examination/test if possible. The instructor and student shall attempt to come to a mutually agreeable method of making up the missed examination.

USRR 1.4.6 Students with a verifiable qualifying life event, (as defined by the IRS) or witnessing a qualifying life event for an immediate family member, may be excused from being present for scheduled examinations and tests. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate discussion with the instructor, prior to the examination/test if possible. The instructor and student shall come to a mutually agreeable method of making up the missed work to protect students experiencing a life-changing event.