Dr. Donald Bialostosky, Chair, Department of English gave an update on the plans for the upcoming Year of the Humanities. (see attached announcements)

URC Sub Committee Updates:
- Dr. Kathy Blee gave update for the Humanities Committee: Discussed the recent Humanities Initiative Funding Summary
- Dr. Kent Harries gave update for the Undergraduate Research Committee
  - Some of the issues and concerns are new human resources hiring challenges and compensating undergraduate students.
  - New conditions for hiring volunteer students.
  - Dr. Robert Gibbs: undergraduate students can be used as cheap labor which may take away jobs from others; this also concerns PA laws.
  - Kent Harries suggests it’s important to show faculty the importance of undergraduate students.
- Dr. Anne Robertson gave update for the Faculty Support Committee
  - Discussed bridge funding and grant writing programs.
  - Dr. Jeremy Somers mentioned one of the biggest challenges in supporting faculty is having them come to his office for help; another challenge is when faculty do ask for help but they don’t listen and implement their advise when preparing proposals.
  - Dr. Paula Sherwood suggests we should start developing more for senior faculty
  - Mark Redfern told the Council about a new program, Research Connect, that may be of interest to faculty. We will try to have a presentation at one of the Fall 2015 meetings

The next URC Meeting is scheduled for May 19th @ noon at the University Club.