Mark Redfern announced there will be an Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) “Meeting of the Minds” event held at Pitt, April 3-5, 2014. Each year the ACC sponsors this event for 5-10 outstanding undergraduate researchers from each ACC institution to gather at a host university to present their original research, verbally or as poster presentations.

- The question arose regarding how each university determines the 5-10 undergraduate researchers who will present for each institution?

**Action Item:** Mary Grace will report back on how the undergraduate researchers are chosen

Small Grants Program: The FY 2015 Central Research Development Fund (CRDF) announcement was posted January 2, 2014.

- Michael Deal from the Center for Industry Studies (CIS) contacted Mark Redfern regarding supplementing some CRDF proposals that involve engineers and social scientists multidisciplinary projects. Mark Redfern will discuss this in more detail with Michael Deal in the next few weeks. If approved, an additional CRDF announcement will go out regarding these supplemental funds from CIS.

Continued the December 2013 meeting discussion on establishing a Grants Development Office for Pitt’s lower campus – comments:

- Kent Harries mentioned he likes more of a distributed Grants Development Office rather than just one central office
- Kathy Blee stated, in Social Sciences there would be a need for faculty to meet one on one with the Grant Developer.
- Future workshops to help faculty with grants.
- Health Sciences has a good career development series available. This type of series should be considered for the lower campus.
- Paula Sherwood mentioned that Department vice chairs could be used to help faculty in the grants development area.
- Mark Redfern will look at grant development office models at other universities and share with the Council in the near future.

Mark Redfern - Update on Innovation Institute:

- The Innovation Institute will house the Office of Technology Management, Office of Enterprise Development, and the Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence (IEE).
- Marc Malandro was named Interim Director of the IEE.
- There will be a national search for the IEE director position later this spring.

Sustainability at Pitt
- Mark Redfern will try to schedule Eric Beckman to speak at one of the upcoming URC meetings to discuss Sustainability at Pitt.

  **Action Item:** Mary Grace will send the Council the Sustainability Steering Committee members listing

  - 2014 Federal Agency Briefing Bust Trip to Washington DC will be April 6-7th.

**The next URC Meeting is scheduled for February 10th at the University Club.**