1. Approval of Draft Minutes for March 8, 2016

Minutes were approved as presented.

2. URC Chair Elect Vote

Chair Hanley was asked to provide information on what the URC Chair’s role includes besides the obvious of chairing the meetings. She mentioned the importance of the URC having representation on the Budget Committee especially with budget cuts going into effect. She suggested that if a council member would like to serve on the Budget Committee, she is willing to pass that task on but that it’s important that a URC member attends regularly. The URC Chair also sits on the Council of Associate Deans for Research which meets monthly. It was decided to vote for the Chair Elect and the member who volunteered for the position was Kathy Hanley. Sam Fernald asked Chair Hanley to step out briefly and a vote was taken. It was unanimous to re-elect Dr. Hanley.

3. Graduate Student Individual Development Plan Website – Update

Chair Hanley would like to see the URC involved in the website development as it is required by NIH and will also be required by other funding agencies in the near future. Every institution in the country has an individual development plan website for their graduate students. URC asked the NMSU grad school to implement one and they visited a URC meeting and presented one that was not sufficient or complete. After multiple emails, Dean Reyes contacted the VPR and said the grad school does not have the resources to do this. Chair Hanley said that VPR Chaitanya has indicated that he would help where he could.

4. URC Award

Manoj Shukla provided an update that the review panel has reviewed the packets and will be meeting with VPR Chaitanya to confirm the awardees. After the decision is finalized, an announcement will be made.

5. Other

The URC meeting for May was cancelled due to URC business being complete for the academic year.