1. Announcements – Trish Barker is leaving the university. She will be teaching at Parkland College and freelancing. She’s still on campus this week, so reach out and wish her well!

2. Illinois Media Space – Drew McGregor from Tech Services offered an update on the Kaltura project, which offers a YouTube-like solution for video posting. It is not platform dependent, and it offers a mobile app for both Apple and Android. For more information, go to www.mediaspace.illinois.edu and check it out. It’s Illinois branded, and when you caption your videos, the text becomes searchable – even by its exact location in the video. Tech Services offers webinars and in-person training.

3. Communication for the academic year – Robin Kaler asked CCOs for input on what talk points they need to help their stakeholders respond to questions about recent events. See the memo below for that material. Thanks to Chris Harris for compiling it.

4. UIAA Update – Hugh Cook said that UIAA is moving all of its media operations to the Illini Center in Chicago. They also are changing their mix of digital/web, so going forward about 70% of their efforts will be in digital publishing and about 30% in print. They plan to release a revamped website as soon as next week.
Background for responding to questions about recent campus events  
September 2015

- The UI Board of Trustees has approved Barb Wilson as interim chancellor.
  - She brings more than 10 years of administrative experience on this campus to the position.
  - Her faculty home is in the Department of Communication and she will return to position of dean of LAS when a permanent chancellor is hired.
- The Board also named Ed Feser, who is the dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, interim provost.
  - Feser is a strong scholar with impressive leadership credentials and extensive background in economics.
- The Board also approved Mike Thomas’ appointment of Bill Cubit as the interim head coach of the varsity football team.
  - He will serve in that role the entire 2015 football season.
  - The other assistant coaches all remain on staff, so the student-athletes have nine of their ten coaches still in place.
- Our freshmen class is the second largest in our history and continues to be among the most academically talented in the nation.
  - Class size is 7,565, with nearly 5,500 from Illinois.
  - More than 17% are from underrepresented minorities – with increases this year in the number of African American and Latina/o students.
  - One in five are first generation college students.
  - They have an average ACT of 28.5 and an average SAT of 1361.
  - There are about 1,100 international students in the class this year.
- The campus ranked 11th among national public universities in the US News rankings released this week.
  - The College of Engineering was 5th in the nation and the College of Business was 15th.
  - Between the two colleges, 12 programs ranked among the top 10 and 17 were ranked among the top 20.
- A new and innovative Carle-Illinois College of Medicine has been formally approved by the Board of Trustees and the search for the first dean will launch this fall.
- We have secured a lead gift for a new student Design Center that will bring together our students from across the campus in new interdisciplinary ways.
- Last year the campus proudly announced a MacArthur Genius Fellowship winner, a National Medal of Science recipient, a record number of faculty members elected to national academies, two of the largest humanities grants in the nation and more than 12,000 degrees awarded.
- And in just the past month, the work of faculty and students here has made headlines in The New York Times, the Chicago Tribune, the Wall Street Journal, and The New Yorker – just to name a few.