Chair Valarie Griffin called the meeting to order at 2:44 p.m.

Sign-up sheets were passed to indicate attendance. The number in attendance was 32.

Old Business:
- Minutes from 2015 were approved. The motion was made by Kathy Sawin and seconded by Jill Kilanowski.

New Business:

I. Welcome and Introductions: Dr. Griffin welcomed the attendees. Attendees then introduced themselves followed by Dr. Griffin introducing the new Chair, Dr. Cheryl Crisp. There was a brief discussion about member concerns that the RIG meeting was at the same time as one of the Pediatric Sessions making members choose which to attend instead of being able to attend both. Research sections memberships need to be updated annually with MNRS membership renewal. There is no fee for the initial RIG membership and only a modest fee for other RIG memberships.

II. Peds RIG communication and collaboration update: Dr. Griffin then discussed the goals and purposes of the RIG and reminded members of all of the ways members can communicate: Peds RIG website; Linked in site, and the List Serv. There are currently 36 members on Linked In, so that seems to be the preferred communication method. There is a step-by-step process on the MNRS website. Dr. Griffin also discussed spotlighting our members in the Meet the Member Section. Jill Kilanowski suggested that we initially highlight the year’s award winners. The grants committee reviewer continues to be Cheryl Crisp.

III. Distinguished Researcher Award: There were no applicants for this award.

The 2015-2016 Outstanding Dissertation Award was presented to Barbara Giambra, PhD, RN, CPNP, a post doc at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. The topic of her dissertation is Shared Communication. The slides for Dr. Giambra’s presentation are attached with the minutes.

IV. Award Planning for Next Year (2017).
   a. Outstanding Dissertation Award
   b. Early Investigator Award
   c. Guidelines can be found on the Website
There was a brief discussion about opening up awards to other RIGs if the research appropriately fits into the criteria of the RIG awarding the award, so if someone in the Adolescent RIG wanted to apply for a pediatric RIG award, they could do so if their research fit the Pediatric RIG criteria. This conversation is in its infancy, so you will hear more about it in the future.

V. Future section goals/Awards (2017)
   a. Outstanding Dissertation Award
   b. Distinguished Researcher Award

VI. Future Leadership: election
   a. Chair-elect nominations were Dr. Cindy LaFont was elected and will served as Chair elect for 2015-2017, Chair 2017-2018, and Past Chair, 2018-2019.
   b. The University of Wisconsin has a position open: It is the Joint Research Chair in Nursing of Children. Email Dr. Rachel Schiffman (schiffma@uwm.edu)
   c. The National Pediatric Nurse Scientist Collaborative will be meeting at 1:00 pm in Room 101 D at the Wisconsin Center. This collaboration is an effort to bring all pediatric nurse scientists to a single table for discussion and networking. If you would like your name added to this list, please contact RWhite-Traut@chw.org

VII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next MNRS Annual Research Conference will be held April 6-9 at the Hyatt Regency in Minneapolis, MN.