Minority Report (by the Faculty Senate Budgets and Fiscal Planning Committee) to the proposed UBC recommendation of changes in the distribution of F&A revenues.

a. Under the current system of dispersal of ROH, many individual PIs do not have sufficient funds to meet the challenges of small-scale repairs and maintenance, minor item purchases, especially software, small travel expenses by students, etc.

b. There are no readily accessible funds to meet these financial needs in the current system of ROH dispersal. The magnitude of these problems is such that approaching the funding agencies for these monies is not likely to be successful nor is funding by the Research Council likely because these are single investigator needs.

c. Sequestration is and will continue to make this problem worse.

d. We suggest that a fraction of the ~31% of the F&A distribution returned to colleges to cover administrative costs be earmarked for direct distribution to the individual PIs. We have no set fraction in mind for this dispersal although we would be happy to see the current policy of the College of Engineering be used campus wide (15% of the ROH is dispersed to the PIs).

e. We believe this action supports the general budgeting principle used extensively throughout academia that revenues be dispersed to those responsible for generating them, partially in hopes of increasing revenue generation. We believe this action will help alleviate the byzantine web of inconsistent policies about ROH dispersal amongst colleges and increase faculty satisfaction with the ROH dispersal policy.

f. We recognize there are “no free lunches” and that some current or future proposed use of ROH may be precluded if this policy is adopted. We judge the needs outlined herein to be more compelling.