Minutes from the September 2nd Meeting of the Executive
Leadership/Construction Group
Subject: UH Campus Master Plan – Optimization of Research Space

I) VP Bose stressed the urgency of tackling the challenge of managing research space more effectively in the context of UH's goal to reach $200 million in research by 2020.

II) List of different groups looking at developing new policies on research space:
- Executive Leadership/Construction group (VPs Bose, Antel, and Carlucci)
- Design Lab (Deans Oliver, Mark Smith, and Joe Tedesco)
- Provost Budget Reduction Advisory Group (Chaired by David Francis).

III) Data Challenge – Design Lab's review of NSM revealed that the data in FAMIS did not match the results of their walk through of the NSM research space. The ensuing discussion focused on the Division of Research and FP&C working together to perform regular audits of the data to improve its validity.

IV) Policy Challenge – Currently, there is no clear owner of research space nor a procedure for reallocating research space. VP Bose proposed a strategy that would develop policies at two levels. At the university level the VP for Research would oversee the management of space for multidisciplinary centers and core facilities. At the college level, deans would oversee the management of space for research specific to their college. Also, VP Bose stated that

there was a need for guidelines regarding the allocation of space to PIs with grants, as well as termination dates for PIs without grants.

V)   Design Lab's study of NSM indicated the need to identify clear lines of research space management responsibility as well as a budget to maintain the space. During the discussion, it was agreed that the ongoing review of the use of IDC should address this finding, though it was felt that even taking 10% off the top of IDC (as is the policy at the University of California) would not provide sufficient resources to solve the maintenance problem.

VI)   Next steps: Develop a work plan and timeline to the address the UH research space challenges of data, policy, management, and budget. The development of needed Policies must be coordinated with the three groups (the Executive Leadership group, Design Lab, and the Provost advisory group) currently studying research space.