June 29, 2009

Dear Activities Board at Columbia,

The F@CU Committee would like to thank ABC for submitting a very thorough application and presenting a very informative presentation. We greatly appreciate your dedication to providing such an essential service to the Columbia community.

For the coming 2009-2010 academic year, the F@CU Committee has decided to give ABC an allocation of $366,303.61. This represents an increase of 19.1% over last year’s allocation. However, it is a decrease of 29.2% from the original allocation request. The F@CU Committee reached this final number after a great deal of deliberation and due consideration of numerous factors. Most importantly, we would like to stress that this number reflects the limitations on F@CU’s available resources, rather than any discontent with the ABC application. Please see the “State of F@CU” letter for additional details regarding limited increase in F@CU funding this year.

The final number for ABC was obtained after assessing three cuts totaling $107,223.70. The nature of each cut is detailed below:

The F@CU Committee made an initial cut of $1,830.00 from the Activities Fair event budget request. The F@CU Committee estimated that around 30 ABC groups would show up to the Activities Fair at $15/group. This brought the total need down to $450 from a request of $2,280.00.

We also cut $31,161.00 from the requested allocation increase for Bacchanal. The F@CU Committee recognizes Bacchanal’s need to obtain additional funds in order to expand the annual concert. However, F@CU does not currently have any additional funds available to support such large allocation increases. The F@CU Committee urges Bacchanal to aggressively pursue outside revenue sources to increase funding in the future.

Finally, F@CU applied a $65,062.70 cut due to budget constraints. This 15.08% cut was levied on the adjusted need of $431,366.31 after factoring in the previous two cuts. All governing boards were subjected to this cut due to F@CU’s inability to fund substantially higher governing board allocation requests this year with only a minimal increase in funding.

The F@CU Committee regrets not being able to fully fund ABC’s request this year. We hope you recognize that a majority of our cuts were a result of necessity rather penalty.

Thank you again for your time and we look forward to working with you in the next year. If you have any questions, you can reach us at facu@columbia.edu.

Sincerely,

The F@CU Committee