



June 29, 2009

Dear Club Sports Governing Board,

The F@CU Committee would first like to thank you for the well-constructed packet and engaging presentation. It is clear that much time was put into your F@CU presentation and we sincerely appreciate your dedicated effort.

We are also grateful of your efforts to “cut the fat.” Your explanations were all honest and it was clear to us that you were able to make extremely tough decisions when necessary. It made our job far easier not having to second-guess your numbers.

The F@CU committee decided to give CSGB an allocation of \$176,821.57 for the 2009-10 academic year. This represents an 11% decrease from last year’s allocation and a 20% decrease from the original allocation request. The F@CU committee hopes that the funding shortfall can be damped by this year’s increased contributions from Barnard. We hope you understand that the decrease reflects the limitations on F@CU’s available resources rather than any discontent with CSGB application. Please see the “State of F@CU” letter for additional details regarding limited increase in F@CU funding this year.

The total amount initially cut from the requested allocation was \$13,351.45, which is explained in the following paragraph. The remaining \$208,228.55 was then subjected to a 15.08% cut that was applied across all governing board allocations due to this year’s limited increase of student life fees.

The \$13,351.45 cut is proportional to the significant percent of Club Sports participants who do not pay the student activities fee, this includes graduate students, faculty, and staff. The F@CU committee decided this cut was necessary to reduce the subsidization of graduate student participation in club sports programs. Arguments can be made about the value of having experienced team members and how much an additional fee would be a detriment to participation, but unfortunately, it is financially unsustainable to continue to subsidize non-undergraduates in Club Sports.

We urge the CSGB to come up with a plan to ask for a greater contribution from graduate students. While we understand that higher dues can often be prohibitive, perhaps increased fundraising and sponsorship efforts can make up the difference. Finally, the F@CU committee would like to applaud CSBG’s efforts to seek out important alternative sources of revenue.

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

Sincerely,

The F@CU Committee