Dear Governing Boards,

We thank you for your hard work this past year helping organize a wonderful year of programming for our community. We would also like to thank you for the diligence paid and energy expended making this year’s F@CU process one of the most smooth in recent memory.

In order to make the process smoother next year, ensure equity between groups and cut down on needless appeals, the F@CU committee is looking to reform the appeals process. We envision a system whereby groups come to the councils for new programming only and appeal to their respective governing boards for emergency expenditures. This means that recurring events (excluding national championships for club sports) will not receive additional sponsorships from governing boards or councils, unless emergency funds are needed.

These recurring events, however, will not see a reduction in funding. Instead, the amount traditionally given by each council over the past several years for recurring events (in the overwhelming majority of cases, this amount has remained unchanged as far back as our data show) will be given to the governing boards. We trust that you will allocate this additional sum of money into the accounts of those groups at the beginning of the year.

Attached is a spreadsheet with the amounts given by each council to recurring events held by groups within each governing board. All governing boards will receive a lump sum, additional to the F@CU transfer, with all recurring event co-sponsorships in Fall 2010 in line with the amounts on the spreadsheet.

We ask that governing boards decline appeals from clubs for recurring events, just as councils will decline appeals for emergency expenses. This will ensure that clubs have a one-stop-shop for their appeal needs and will not just “spin the wheel” of Columbia sponsorships in hopes of getting funds wherever they may be found.

The trend of the past several years has been to put more power and money in the hands of club leaders. This has been quite successful, as the number of clubs in debt seems to have decreased this past year. This move is in the spirit of that trend. With it, we hope to cut down on unnecessary bureaucracy and put power in the hands of club leadership.

Sincerely,
The F@CU Committee