



Foundation for Individual Rights in Education

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PRESIDENT

November 15, 2011

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University of Chicago
Administration Building
5801 South Ellis Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60637

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DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND
PUBLIC ADVOCACY

Adam Kissel
VICE PRESIDENT OF
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Sent via U.S. Mail and Facsimile (773-702-0809)

Dear President Zimmer:

Alan Charles Kors
CO-FOUNDER AND
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS

As you might remember from our previous correspondence, the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) unites leaders in the fields of civil rights and civil liberties, scholars, journalists, and public intellectuals across the political and ideological spectrum on behalf of liberty, legal equality, academic freedom, due process, freedom of speech, and freedom of conscience on America's college campuses. Our website, thefire.org, will give you a greater sense of our identity and activities.

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CO-FOUNDER AND
CHAIRMAN

FIRE is concerned by the threat to freedom of association posed by the decision of the University of Chicago's Committee on Registered Student Organizations (CORSO) to deny Registered Student Organization (RSO) status to the student group Occupy Wall Street at the University of Chicago. This student organization has fulfilled all of the stated requirements for RSO status, and its mission and activities constitute core political speech at the heart of freedom of association principles.

Barbara Bishop
William J. Hume
Richard Losick
Joseph M. Maline
Marlene Mieske
Daphne Patai
Virginia Postrel
Daniel Shuchman

This is our understanding of the facts. Please inform us if you believe we are in error.

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In mid-October of this year, University of Chicago student Guy Mount submitted to CORSO a complete application for RSO status for Occupy Wall Street at the University of Chicago. The organization's mission is "to provide intellectual, logistic, financial, organizational and institutional support in solidarity with the local Occupy Chicago movement as well as the broader Occupy Wall Street movement." On the CORSO Organizational Information Questionnaire, answering the question "How would your organization becoming an RSO benefit the University community?" Mount wrote:

