Dear Dr. Spanier,

Hopefully you've enjoyed your weekend, and the semester is going well for you.

I'm currently a seventh-semester student intending to participate in an Integrated Undergraduate and Graduate (IUG) program in Computer Science at University Park. I'm writing because I am in the process of starting a new project at Penn State, with the hope that you will be able to help me make this dream a reality.

During the summer of 2003, I was hired by the Office of Enrollment Management and Retention at Penn State Abington to develop a new session for their orientation program. The idea was to build the Penn State spirit of incoming freshmen while reinforcing key concepts about Penn State (such as how to use E-Lion, for example). I spent much of my summer programming software and working out logistical details of a multimedia gameshow that uses technology to simulate a real-life television production. The program, named *Freshmen Feud,* is loosely based on the TV gameshow Family Feud. It received the highest ratings in the history of the already top-rated orientation program at Abington by students, and also received commendations from many parents.

With the permission of the Director of Enrollment Management and Retention at the Abington campus, I have begun a project to adapt *Freshmen Feud* and to turn it into an entertaining activity for current students at University Park. The new project, named *Campus Feud,* would take its questions from University Park students' opinions on both fun and serious issues. It would have students compete for prizes on a stage designed like a residence hall room, using the most up-to-date projection, graphics, and software technology. The entire production, as it was at Abington, would be entirely produced by a team of Penn State students, ten of whom are already willing to dedicate themselves completely to the task.

Late Night Penn State has agreed to provide us with showtimes in the HUB during March of this semester. Unfortunately, while Late Night is able to provide us with space, they are unable to spare any funding for the project. Thus, we have the space and staff support necessary to continue this show at University Park. However, without adequate funding to create the set, to publicize the show, and to give away interesting prizes, I fear this project will forever remain a novelty that can be experienced by only a small number of incoming freshmen at Abington.

Even if you can only spare a minimal amount, I would greatly appreciate any financial support you could provide. Short videos that Abington paid me to produce during December are available at http://www.abington.psu.edu/admissions, by clicking on the "Orientation" link, and then clicking on "Freshmen Feud." A 10-page description of the event is also located at http://www.shoemakervillage.org/campusfeud.doc if you require more information. Finally, Dr. Karen Wiley Sandler (kws3@psu.edu), Dean and CEO of the Abington College, has experienced the event several times and has expressed her positive opinion to me on several occasions. Dr. Sandler knows of my academic

credentials and integrity, and I'm sure that she would be more than willing to share her thoughts on the production with you as well.

I understand that you are very busy and I would be grateful if you would consider this event. While I realize that the University is falling upon tight financial times, our team would appreciate any support you could provide.

Thank you for your time,

-Steve Sokolowski
steve@shoemakervillage.org