

**Branstetter, Jennifer**

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**From:** Ammerman, Paula [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 25, 2012 4:32 PM  
**Subject:** Communication from President Emeritus Spanier  
**Attachments:** Communication from President Emeritus Spanier.pdf

**TO:** Members of the Board of Trustees

President Emeritus Graham Spanier asked that I distribute the attached message to you for your information.

In the event you have difficulty opening or accessing the document, please advise and a print copy will be provided.

Thank you,  
Paula

Paula R. Ammerman  
Director, Board of Trustees Office  
The Pennsylvania State University  
205 Old Main  
University Park, PA 16802  
[REDACTED]; (814) 863-4631 FAX  
[REDACTED]

www.pennstatesunshinefund.org



May 25, 2012

Dear Members of the Board of Trustees:

In the letter I presented to the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees on November 9, 2011 indicating I was stepping aside as president, I said that it has been the greatest privilege of my life to serve as president of Penn State, and I will always feel that way. I will cherish my 26 years of service to the university, and I look forward to many years of continued contributions.

I have tried to promote a positive attitude about the university and the Board of Trustees during the past six months. I have abstained from comments in the media, even during those many painful times when individual trustees or the board in unison made statements that have contained inaccuracies that have been damaging to me. I have encouraged the more than 1500 donors, alumni, and friends who have reached out to me to continue their support for the university. You have been working hard to provide exceptional leadership and governance, and I have tried from a distance to be supportive of your efforts.

I write to you now to explain that on the advice of my attorneys, I have had to bring suit against the university in order to pave the way for my full cooperation with the Freeh Group investigation. You may be aware that the Freeh investigators and attorneys have asked on several occasions that I speak with them, and I have wanted to do this for months. I have been willing and eager to lend my utmost cooperation, which I believe is imperative for a full understanding of the operation and oversight of the university during my tenure as president. It is in the interest of truth and fairness that a fully informed discussion occurs.

Yet university attorneys have indicated that they have been unable to assist my attorneys and me by providing in advance the documents the Freeh Group wishes to discuss with me, even though university attorneys apparently are willing to do so. This results from a request by the Attorney General that no documents be shared. Consequently, as has been explained to me, it is necessary for a court to compel the university to share these documents over the Attorney General's objection. The suit only seeks the production of these relevant documents.

I am explaining this to you since never in a million years would it have occurred to me to see myself in such a situation with the university I love and worked so hard to serve ably for so long. I find myself in an awkward situation and felt I needed to provide this context.

Thank you for your understanding of this difficult circumstance.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Graham Spanier  
President Emeritus