

December 6, 2004

Mr. T. J. Brown

[REDACTED]
Northbrook, IL 60062

Dear Mr. Brown,

Thank you for your email to President Herbert wherein you expressed your concerns regarding the recent history and current state of the University's athletic program. You also noted the "sagging academic reputation of the school." We also have on file your request of last April for no Foundation solicitation, which we are honoring.

Your comments regarding athletics are well taken, but must join a myriad of varying alumni responses, differing on the solution to a complex situation.

What is indisputable is the fact that attendance last fall at all football games was the lowest since 1962, homecoming drew only 22,000 and the average home game attendance was 28,000. Athletic income is driven by football and basketball revenues, so something had to be done to improve those figures. It was determined that a change in coaches was necessary to rejuvenate interest in the football program, which went 8-27 under Coach DiNardo. Rick Greenspan is directing the search for a dynamic successor who is capable of producing a winning program.

It's unfortunate that you think IU's academic reputation is "sagging." It is not a generally-held belief. National rankings are elusive at best, but we seem to be doing fairly well in most areas. We are aware that competition is constant and hard work goes into just "holding our own" in some fields.

We are no. 11 nationally in Fulbrights. Over the past three years, we've had two Rhodes Scholars, four Nobel and two Pulitzer prizes, and 17 fellows of the National Academies of Sciences. The Kelley School, Music School, SPEA, Education, and many COAS departments (and the School of Journalism) consistently rank among the best in the nation. The list goes on.



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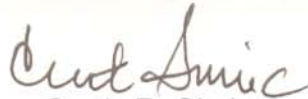
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Our guess is that none of this will serve to change your mind. We will continue to honor your request that no Foundation solicitations be sent to you. You may receive some from other University entities. Thank you for your previous gifts. The Foundation strictly honors donor intent, so if in the future you wish to support an academic program, scholarship, or student service fund of your choice, be assured those contributions will be deposited in the accounts you indicate.

Please accept our very best wishes for the holidays and new year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Curtis R. Simic".

Curtis R. Simic
President

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