May 6, 2005

Marquette Fund
P.O. Box 1881
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Dear Senior Challenge Committee,

I wanted to react to your petition for Senior Challenge. In the letter you mention that graduating “doesn’t mean that Marquette will forget about us.”

The actions of the Board of Trustees seems to conflict with that statement. As a current student, and alumnus-to-be, I found the disregard of alumni and current students that coincided with the adoption of an otherwise unmentioned nickname to represent our school and the pride of our athletic programs to be appalling. I have never been so ashamed to be a part of the Marquette community.

The administration needs to understand that actions like this should not be tolerated. Unfortunately, knowing well how Marquette operates, it will be tolerated. Students and alumni will have to swallow this disregard and disrespect and we are expected to continue to cough up money without proper representation into matters that represent us. I have been embarrassed in my local community, and indeed around the nation.

Because of this, I do not intend to give to the Senior Challenge. Instead, I will be giving my money to buy underclassmen blue-colored shirts to wear at our athletic events to continue to voice their discontent.

If Marquette ever wants any money out of me, they are going to have to renew the trust that has been broken. Until I see that students are being given a say in the decisions that affect them, such as this one, I will not be giving ANY money to Marquette as an alumnus. It saddens me to take such a harsh stand, but it has become apparent that GOLD is the only language which Marquette understands.

Please do not solicit any funds from me until you can prove that this situation has been remedied to the satisfaction of the students that are affected.

Sincerely,

Christian Eichenlaub

Cc: Office of the President
    Office of Public Affairs