

FOIA MARKER

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Johnathan Rodgers
President
Discovery Networks

July 5, 2000

Mr. Joe Lockhart
Press Secretary
The White House
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Joe:

I would like to formally request an interview with President Clinton for the Discovery Channel. Discovery is interested in producing a one hour prime time special, with the working title of "*Great Discoveries Past and Future: A Conversation with Bill Clinton*," to explore the wondrous advancements of the last decade, discuss their many implications, and look over the horizon at how technology and globalization are shaping the world.

Discovery would intersperse the conversation with short pre-packaged segments on each of the topic areas, broadcast the special during prime-time, and replay the interview several times over the weekend. In addition, Discovery International will broadcast the special worldwide in the 149 countries and 27 languages that Discovery is distributed in. Discovery.com will also solicit relevant questions for the President, offer viewers more in-depth information on topic areas, and distribute the full transcript of the interview.

Our initial subjects for discussion with the President include:

- The Human Genome Project. Implications of this historic achievement.
- The Exploration of Mars. With evidence of liquid water should we be rethinking manned planetary exploration?
- Globalization: The impact of technology and information on international relations and the drive towards a new global media culture.
- Gene Therapy. Treating disease by eradicating the genetic cause.
- Cloning. The scientific and moral implications.
- Global Warming. How real is the threat to earth's atmosphere?
- Digital Divide: The growing knowledge gap and what can be done about it.
- Air Pollution. A look at the Administration's record to control air and water quality (including new initiatives such as alternative fuels and electric cars).
- Habitat Protection. Protecting forests, wetlands, coral reefs, and threatened wildlife.

Networks of Discovery Communications, Inc.

Discovery Digital Networks



Discovery Kids Channel
Discovery Civilization Channel
Discovery Home & Leisure Channel
Discovery Science Channel
Discovery Wings Channel
Discovery Health Channel

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DISCOVERY CHANNEL

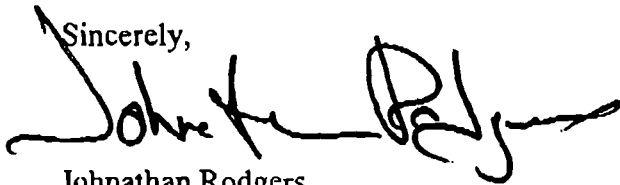
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- The Oceans. The President's recently announced national commitment to exploring the oceans' depths and what we can learn.
- The International Space Station. Is the \$60 billion space station worth the investment?
- Bio-Chemical Terrorist Threats. What are the high-tech responses to these new threats?
- AIDS in Africa. What can be done to stop the spread of global infectious diseases?

Joe, it is our desire to have a first class discussion with the President on the many issues he was worked so hard on over the last eight years. I am confident that this session can be an important conversation for the America people and be produced with the same high quality and excellence that is a trademark of Discovery.

Thanks for the consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Johnathan Rodgers", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Johnathan Rodgers

CC: Richard "Jake" Siewert
Jennifer Palmieri

Sample Topics for Science's Conversation with the President of the United States

1. **The Legacy.** For example:
 - What is the President most proud of accomplishing in the area of scientific funding, science policy, etc.?
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2. **The Future.** For example:
 - What are the 4-5 most critical scientific issues that, in the President's view, will face his successor?
 - What advice would the President give on each of these?
3. **Post-Mortem.** For example:
 - In retrospect, how does the President think the OSTP functions, should science be a cabinet-level function considering its importance in today's world, and so forth?
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4. **International View.** For example:
 - Should the U.S. be more or less engaged in global science? If less, why? If more, which non-U.S. projects seem of most importance to the President?
 - Has the President personally experienced the concern Europeans and Asians have about U.S. dominance in global science and, if so, what does he make of this?
5. **Personal Observations.** For example:
 - It was much said in the early years of President Clinton's presidency that he was not comfortable with discussing scientific issues, but something seems to have changed considering the many talks he has now given on scientific matters and his apparent enthusiasm for it. Would he discuss his **personal** relation to science and how he sees it now?