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Dismissal of Rob Jeter as UWM coach was unwarranted

Statement of Alderman Ashanti Hamilton March 18, 2016

I'm deeply disappointed in the decision this week by University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Athletic Director Amanda Braun to fire men's basketball coach Rob Jeter.

During Ms. Braun's three-year tenure, Rob Jeter has recorded two 20-win seasons and has maintained an overall record of 55-43. His teams were invited to two post-season tournaments, notched a Horizon League championship and participated in the NCAA tournament.

But his teams have been successful off the basketball court as well. In the past two years, the team has earned grade point averages of 3.0 and 3.1—the best ever in program history. Eight out of 10 players have graduated, and the two that didn't signed professional contracts. And when they're not practicing, these players are out in the community, logging close to 1,000 hours of volunteering each year.

Rob Jeter is more than just a coach—he's a mentor and a fine example for the young men who look up to him. He's made incredible efforts to groom his student-athletes to be socially-conscious and career-minded. His history with and contributions to the school and the community warrant more than the abrupt, perfunctory dismissal to which he was subjected.

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