

**UNIVERSITY STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL
WEB SUBMISSIONS**

April 2020

Idea/Rationale: Why are faculty and staff being required to continue to work on campus during the coronavirus class suspension when most work can be done remotely? Why are students being prioritized rather than the entire community? It would send a message that faculty, staff, and students are equally valued if the university were to have faculty and staff also work remotely or close for 30 days.

Response: USAC noted that most everyone students, faculty, and staff, are working from home or on very abbreviated schedules on site. During this time of sacrifice though it should be acknowledged that there are some employees who are still making sure life at the University goes on and making sure that everyone is able to return to comfortable and safe campus as well as allowing most of our community to work remotely.

Further, USAC members praised the University's swift action and some noted that UR acted well ahead of others.

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Suggestion/Acknowledgment: Acknowledgment of former USAC member Jerry Robinson. USAC is saddened by the passing of Jerry Robinson and we wish to acknowledge his service to university and to USAC. This passage from Senior Associate Vice-President for Finance & Controller, Laurie Melville says it best, "It is with deep sadness that I write to share the news that our friend and colleague, Jerry Robinson, passed away suddenly yesterday afternoon. Jerry has been a trusted colleague and friend to all of us in the Controller's Office and many, many others across campus. We will miss his enthusiasm as he talked about his beloved Steelers. We will miss his famous BBQ sauce and his entrepreneurial spirit. And we will miss talking to him about his children and grandchildren, and the way he beamed when he spoke about them. We will miss everything that made Jerry Jerry. Please keep Jerry's wife Joan and his family in your thoughts and prayers during this extraordinarily difficult time."

Response: USAC read the above passage aloud and honored Jerry with 1 minute of silent reflection.