

Name: Fausto Garcia
Working Title: Meter Reader
Payroll Title: BLANK AST 3

3000: that is the number of meters Jesse (Fausto) Garcia, Meter Technician extraordinaire, has memorized. His brain is a library of the campus meter system--built over 21 years of dedication, loyalty, and care. His outstanding work on the Utilities and Energy team has been the foundation for efficient and sustainable utility operations, and has well exceeded expectations. He deserves to be recognized as Staff Exemplary Employee of the year for his innovative leadership, ability to build relationship and partnerships, and dedicated efforts that have led to substantial cost savings to the university.

Over the past three years, Jesse has been instrumental in the Utilities and Energy Department Flex Net implementation and optimization project. Jesse took this activity on without allowing other duties to slip and identified and helped fix 175 leaks accounting for 2.5 million gallons of water saved!

While the savings are impressive, how he enabled to accomplish the savings are also noteworthy. Not only does Jesse tirelessly track water usage across the La Jolla campus by identifying irregularities in usage patterns, he often performs his own investigation of what might be happening at the source. He takes it upon himself to visit sites to evaluate what might be happening and also verify conditions. Jesse immediately contacts responsible parties and provides them with invaluable data and analysis so that they can pinpoint and address underlying issues. One example includes a time when Jesse provided an early notification of a sharp water spike at Biological Research Facility 2. He helped Facilities Management Building Operations identify an issue in one of the mechanical spaces and prevented severe water damage. His commitment to finding and solving problems like these saves time, resources, and money for the University.

This work is not only at a substantial cost savings to the University, but has shown a tremendous amount of leadership beyond his job card. Jesse always proactively identifies challenges faced by other units with respect to water usage. His highly professional and sincere interaction with staff in Landscape Services, Housing Dining and Hospitality, Medical Center, University Center and even student groups such as Rogers Garden enables units to find potential problems before any one realizes there is even an issue! This innovative and proactive leadership motivates everyone that interacts with him, activating others to take initiative in sustainable water practices and to implement water saving projects themselves.

Finally, Jesse's super power is the ability to build and develop strong relationships and partnerships. His consistently positive and caring attitude improves unit morale and spills beyond any job expectation. Those who work with Jesse always feel supported because they know he genuinely cares about them and about making their jobs more effective. With the Utilities and Energy Team, he anchors the team with his stable and grounded approach so that our diverse and talented group can thrive---often mentoring new and established teammates alike. And although Jesse often has to inform other departments when things are not operating as expected, his natural interpersonal skills of respect and understanding make it possible for other units to accept his insight and help wholeheartedly, without hesitation.

I am proud to nominate Jesse Garcia as Staff Exemplary Employee of the year. His commitment over the past 21 years to the University is without question. Through his leadership, relationship building, and cost effective practices on the Utilities and Energy team this entire time, he has fueled the innumerable possibilities of our University.