



Dietetic Internship Program
Department of Nutritional Sciences
School of Health Related Professions

January 19, 2010

Julie O'Sullivan-Maillet, PhD, RD, FADA
Interim Dean
School of Health Related Professions – UMDNJ
65 Bergen Street, Room 124
Newark, NJ 07101-1709

Dear Dean Maillet:

It is my pleasure to highly recommend **ISMAEL A. LARA** for the Employee of the Year. As a faculty member in the School of Health Related Professions (SHRP), I was challenged this past year with the development and formation of a new course which was to start in June 2009 on the school's new educational platform – ANGEL. The entire Educational Technology should be commended for their part of the successful implementation of ANGEL at SHRP, but it was Mr. Lara's contribution that stood out for the Dietetic Internship Program.

Struggling with certain aspects of course development I was referred to Ismael for assistance and guidance. He was very attentive to my needs as an instructor – listening to my ideas and problems implementing them. Ismael was able to explain complex technological concepts into easy to follow steps enabling me to adjust course content to meet the needs of the course. Despite my varying levels of stress, apprehension, panic and anxiety in getting a new course up and running, Mr. Lara offered a calming voice of reason, explanation and solutions with each interaction. He was flexible and adaptable with his time to meet my availability to provide one-on-one training and advisement. This personal touch greatly enhanced my understanding of ANGEL and the material learned in group training classes earlier in the 2009.

As a faculty member, it is very reassuring to know that tech support is only a phone call or email away to help trouble shoot problems no matter how small like formatting a web-page or large such as having a students exam not save answers. Ismael provides thorough explanation and takes time to fully understand each situation presented to him to ensure that problems are solved as completely as possible. His follow-up is exceptional. It is because of his knowledge, patience, computer/technology skills that the Dietetic Internship was able to successfully implement their two ANGEL courses in Summer and Fall 2009.

Ismael service to SHRP extends far beyond his position as *Educational Technology Assistant*, he is a warm, caring dedicated and generous individual who has repeatedly supported the faculty of the Dietetic Internship Program with the development, implementation and management of their ANGEL courses. I strongly encourage you to name **ISMAEL A. LARA** the **2010 SHRP Employee of the Year** for his exceptional contributions to the SHRP faculty and students of the Dietetic Internship Program.

Sincerely:



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Cynthia Ann Kwiatkowski, MS, RD, CNSC

Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Nutritional Sciences, Dietetic Internship Program