

## Connecting with Customers

Gainesville City Commission Dec. 4, 2014

## **FY15 Business Plan**

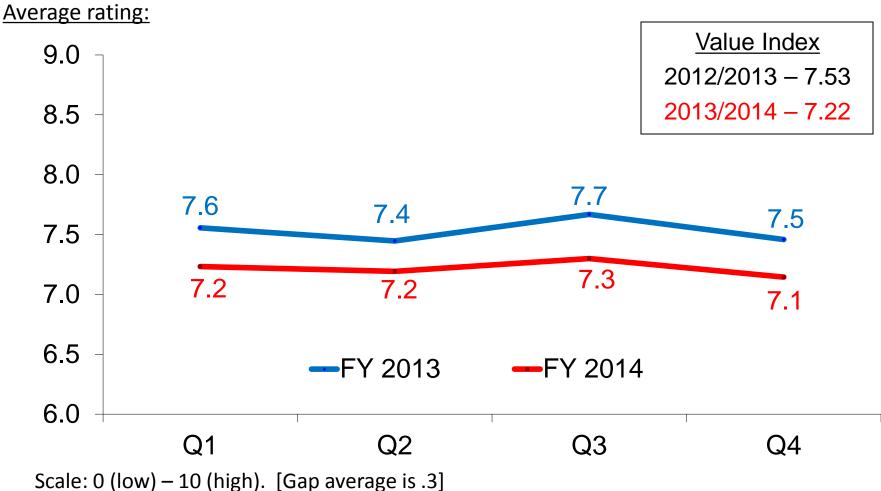
## Focus on four key areas:

- Reduce Electric System Revenue Requirements
- Adapt to Customer's Changing Demands
- Improve Customer Trust
- Improve Employee Engagement



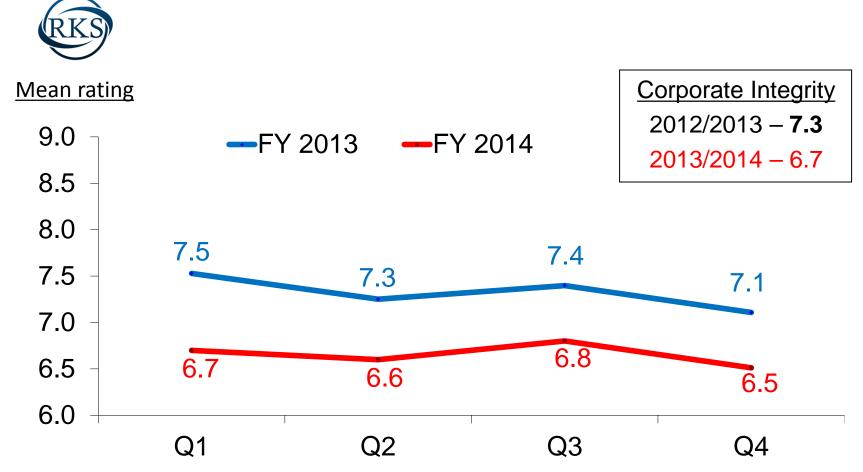


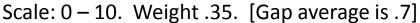
## **Residential Value Index**





## Residential: Corporate Integrity







# The Year in Review (media)

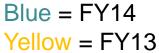
Topic	FY14 Number
Rates	231
Biomass	221
Governance	72
Executive resignation	36
Orrick	12
Chamber Energy Study	6
Investigative review	5



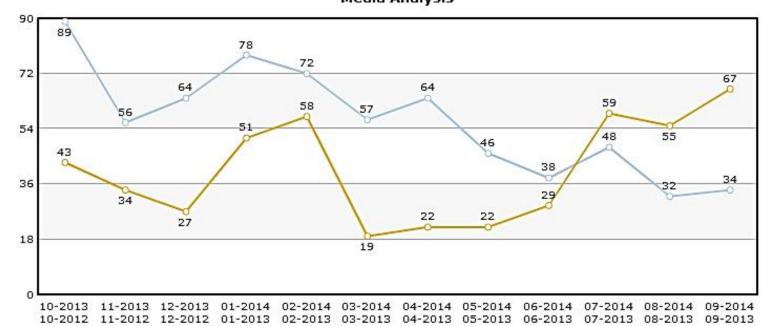
# Media Analysis

Number of times GRU appeared in the media FY13 and FY14

#### **Media Analysis**









# How to Improve

Customers' perceived **Relationship** with their utility has shown to be a key to building and retaining strong performance scores:

- Customers who report they have an active relationship with their utility award the highest Value, Trust and Satisfaction scores.
- In tandem with the Customer-Utility Relationship, Effective Communication ratings, and satisfaction with utilizing customers' Preferred Communication Channels are also key in building and retaining strong satisfaction and value scores.

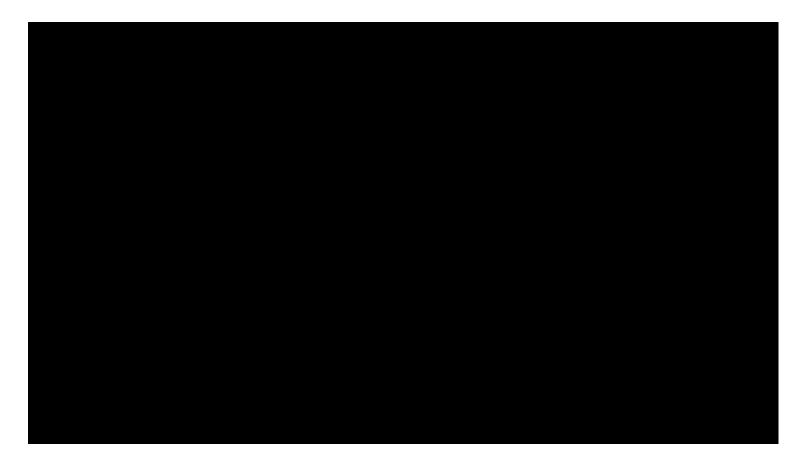


## What Interests Customers?





# What Interests Employees?





## Our Approach — active relationship

Customers who report they have an active relationship with their utility award the highest Value, Trust and Satisfaction scores.

- eBill
- Self service options
- Home Energy Calculator
- Energy saving tips
- Water saving tips



# Our Approach — preferred channels

In tandem with the **Customer-Utility Relationship**, *Effective Communication* ratings, and satisfaction with utilizing customers' *Preferred Communication Channels* are also key in building and retaining strong satisfaction and value scores.

- Expanded use of video, GRU.TV (internal and external)
- Facebook and twitter
- Online advertising to drive customers to landing pages
- Engagement on their terms and schedule



## **Connecting with Customers**

Campaign budget: \$30,000

- \$23,000 for media placement
- Remainder for ad design and campaign management
  - Design and campaign management provided under FY15 professional services agreement with Gainesville-based marketing agency Liquid Creative Studio, LLC







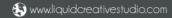








## **GRU** Connecting with Customers "I AM GRU"





## The Strategy and Timeline



### **Purpose of Connecting with Customers**

#### Humanize GRU

- We want customers to feel like they're dealing with people, rather than a corporate office.
- These ads will familiarize the public with the various GRU departments and what they specifically do.
- Unlike ads that solely promote GRU services, these ads will emphasize GRU's true culture as a community-oriented company, while also connecting customers with services and tips that will help their lifestyles.

#### Promote GRU's services

- Promoting what GRU does for the community is important for its image, and by linking those services to the actual people who provide them, they should be more well-received.
- Services and tips promoted include: customer service options, energy- and water-saving tips, etc.

#### Increase positive engagement with customers

- The primary two-way engagement from this campaign will be through social media.
- Positive content and comments on GRU's Facebook page has proved to minimize negative
  engagement and helps GRU control the conversation. This allows us to communicate benefits and
  services to the public, rather than dealing with customer service issues online.

### Timeline: January 2015 – June 2015

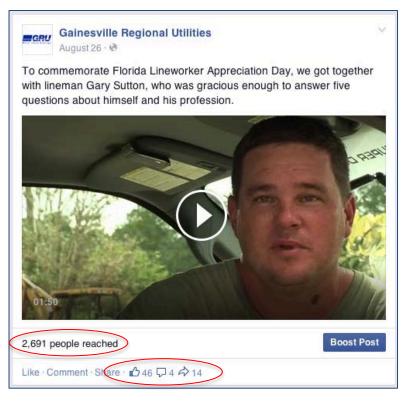
January: Kris' story | Water supply

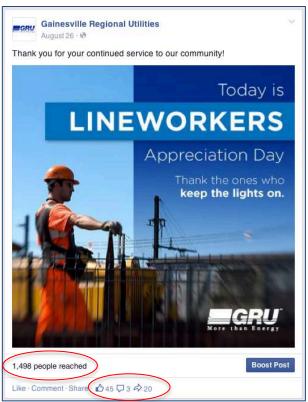
February: Patrice's story | Energy supply March: Kinnzon's story | Customer service

April: Line worker employee story May: Natural gas employee story

June: Telecommunications employee story

## Why feature GRU employees?

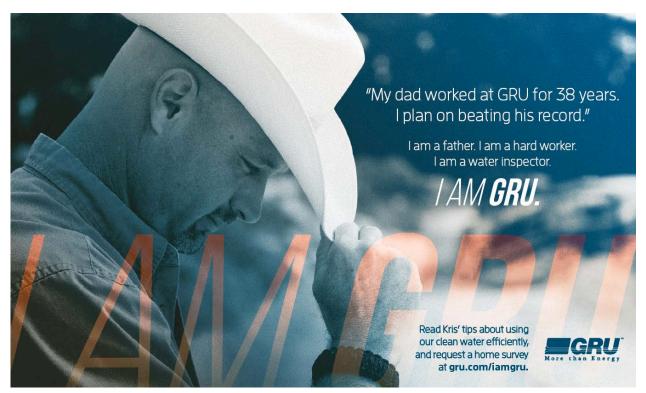




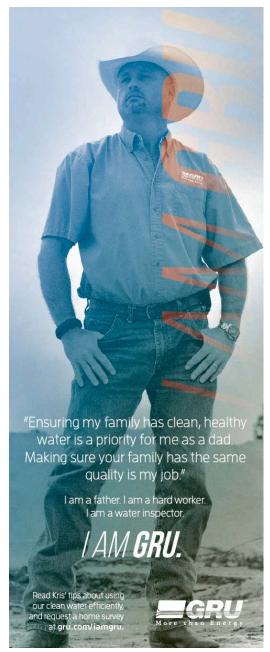
Based on social media content analysis, the Gainesville community responds more positively and with greater frequency to content that focuses on the people at GRU, rather than just its services and updates.





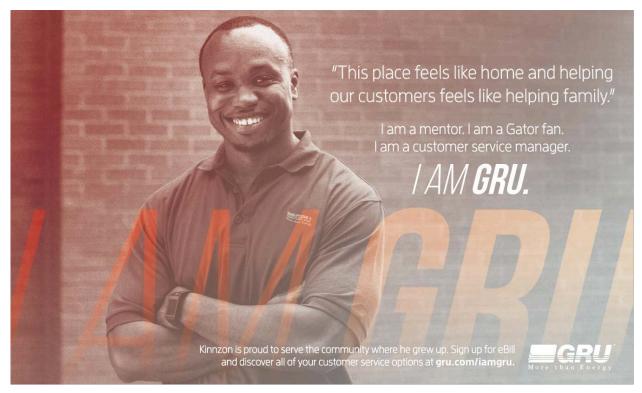


Call to action: Visit gru.com/iamgru to request a home survey.



## Ad Concept #2 | Customer service | Kinnzon ---- liquid creative studio



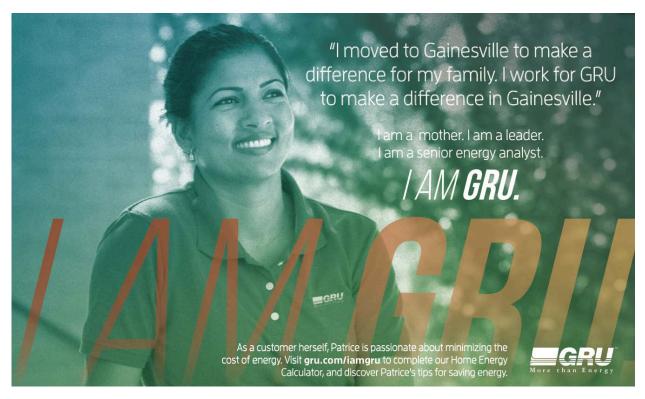


Call to action: Visit gru.com/iamgru to sign up for eBill.



## Ad Concept #3 | Energy | Patrice





Call to action: Visit gru.com/imagru to complete our Home Energy Calculator.



## Social Media Component



### #iamgru









### #iamgru



### www.gru.com/iamgru

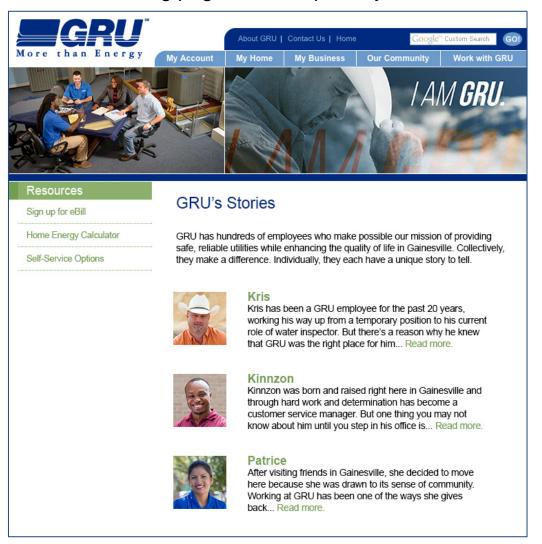


#### **Purpose of landing page:**

- More information on each featured employee's story.
- Links to resources discussed in the ads.

The number of visits to this landing page will be a primary indicator of campaign.

engagement.

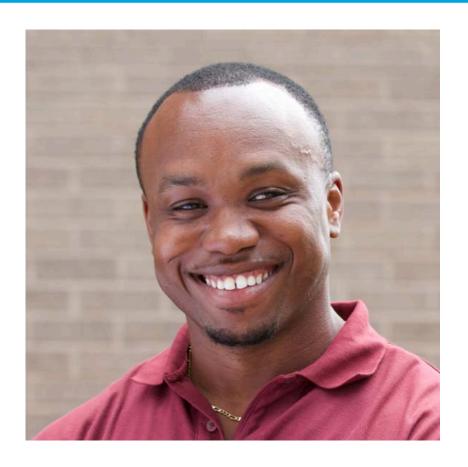




"No one looked more at home on the worksite out in Jonesville than Kris. Maybe it was because of the large white cowboy hat he was wearing, or just his demeanor, but either way, you could tell that he was the expert."

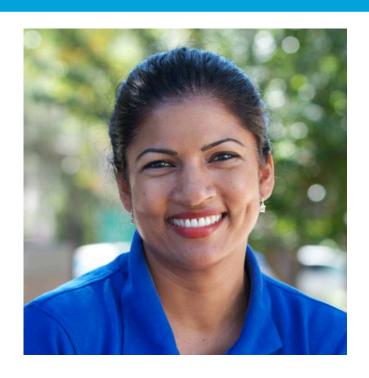
For more water-conservation tips, visit <a href="https://www.gru.com/SaveWater">www.gru.com/SaveWater</a>.

To request a free home survey, where our trained staff will inspect your home to identify ways that you can save water, visit <a href="https://www.gru.com/HomeSurveys">www.gru.com/HomeSurveys</a>.



"When I came back, they threw a party, and it felt like I was coming home."

Discover all our customer service options by selecting from the customer service menu on our <a href="https://example.com/home-page">home-page</a>.



"Fuel management is where I feel like I can make a difference. Being a customer myself, knowing that I have a hand in directly impacting people means a lot to me."

For more seasonal and year-round tips about how to save energy in your home go to <a href="www.gru.com/SaveEnergy">www.gru.com/SaveEnergy</a>. Take a few minutes to answer questions about your home and daily activities for a comprehensive breakdown of your energy use. You may even win a free energy savings kit! Visit <a href="www.gru.com/hec">www.gru.com/hec</a>.



**Purpose:** Strengthen the feeling of pride in the work each department and individual does at GRU.

- Tactic: Post flyers and send an e-line with the "I AM GRU" materials to all employees and encourage them to Tweet #iamgru with a one-line explanation about why he or she loves working for the utility.
- Timeline: This secondary element of the campaign will not launch until the I AM GRU
  campaign is launched and evaluated. Tentatively scheduled to begin April 2015.

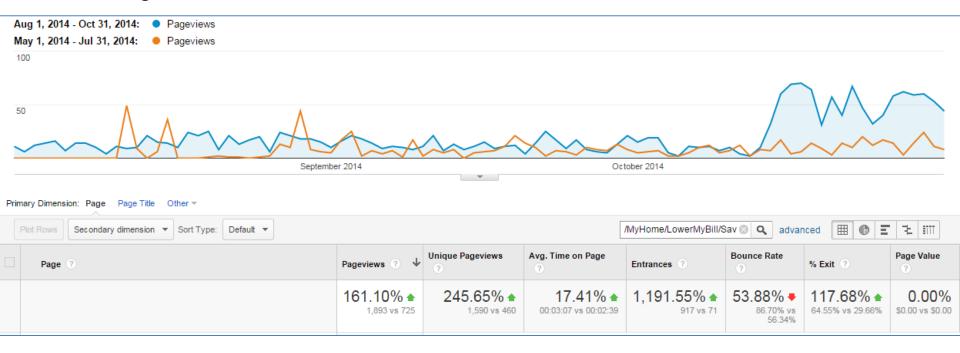


## Previous Results - Residential Conservation \_\_\_ liquid creative studio



**Call to action:** Visit gru.com to access the Home Energy Calculator

- Print ads
- Radio spots (4)
- Facebook ads
- Google ads



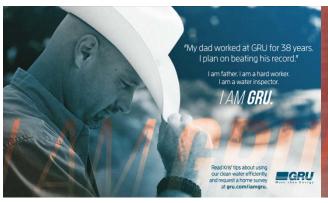
FY15 Q3 – Q4 Home Energy Calculator webpage traffic comparison:

- **161 percent** increase in page views.
- 245 percent increase in unique page views.



### Purpose of I AM GRU Connecting with Customers strategy

- Humanize GRU
- Promote GRU's services
- Increase positive engagement



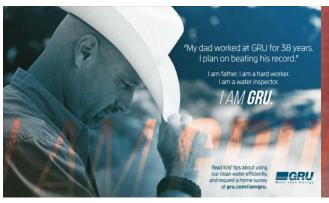






### Goals:

- Improve customer trust
- Improve overall satisfaction with GRU
- Increase awareness of GRU services
- Increase positive social media sentiments



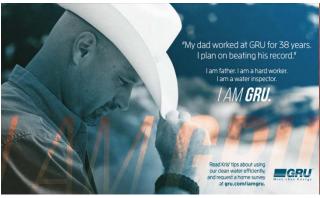




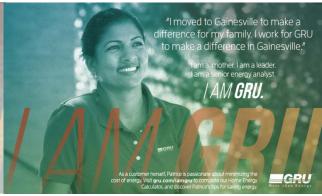


## Measuring effectiveness:

- Third quarter 2015 RKS survey results
  - Trust rating = 6.8 | Satisfaction rating = 7.5
- Landing page visitors
  - At least 1,000 views







- Social media engagement
  - 12,000 organic impressions | 100,000 paid impressions | 200 post engagements