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April 15, 2014

**Keiser University Students Advance to the National Leadership Conference**

**for HOSA – Future Health Professionals**

Port St. Lucie, FL—April 15, 2014— The State Leadership Conference for HOSA – Future Health Professionals was held in Orlando at Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort from April 3 through April 6, 2014.  The Port St. Lucie and West Palm Beach campuses of [Keiser University](http://www.keiseruniversity.edu/) (KU) had students competing alongside the 3,000 other attendees, in a number of different areas of concentration.

Three students placed at the state conference and will advance to the 2014 National Leadership Conference in Orlando on June 25-28.  From the Port St. Lucie campus, Christina Cherwa earning her Associate of Science in Medical Assisting finished in second place in the Medical Assisting category and Lucas Reis earning his AS in Biomedical Sciences finished in third place in the Prepared Speaking category.  Nicole Klein earning her Bachelor’s of Art in Psychology at Keiser’s West Palm Beach campus, won first place in the Researched Persuasive Speaking category.

“This event exposes our students to opportunities and experiences that help better prepare them for their future career paths and to build their professional contacts,” said James Van Allan, Program Coordinator and Speech Instructor.  Van Allan has been advising for students for the HOSA – Future Health Professionals competition since 2013 and was also honored with the award for Postsecondary Rookie Advisor of the Year.

HOSA – Future Health Professionals is a national student organization endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education and the Health Science Education Division of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE).  The goal of this organization is “to promote career opportunities in the health care industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people.”  The students competing at HOSA – Future Health Professionals are enrolled in middle school, high school, or postsecondary schools and to date, Region IX is the second largest region with 13,279 Florida HOSA – Future Health Professionals members.

Ryan Spellman earning his Bachelor’s of Science in Dietetics and Nutrition finished fourth for Researched Persuasive Speaking and Lexie Harris earning her Associate of Science in Massage Therapy finished second place in the Massage Therapy categories.

**About Keiser University:**

Keiser University is a private, not-for-profit university serving nearly 20,000 students pursuing doctoral through associate degrees on 17 campuses, online and internationally, employing 3,500 staff and faculty.

Sixty-two percent of KU students graduate in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and healthcare fields, providing the talented workforce necessary for Florida to compete globally.

Keiser University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award certificates and degrees at the associate, baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral levels. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Keiser University.

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