**NEWS RELEASE –** Immediate Release

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**State Senator Thad Altman to Serve as Commencement Speaker for Keiser University**

*Melbourne Campus Celebrates its 25th Year*

Melbourne, FL –Jun. 11— Throughout May and June, approximately 5,000 Keiser University graduates statewide will cross stages signifying completion of their college degrees and the beginning of the next chapter in their professional lives.  Keiser University’s Melbourne campus, celebrating its 25th year serving the Brevard community, will be hosting its annual graduation ceremony on Saturday, Jun. 14 at 2:00 p.m.at the King Center for the Performing Arts, located at 3865 North Wickham Road in Melbourne.  Approximately 250 students will graduate earning master’s, bachelor’s, and associate degrees.

State Senator Thad Altman will serve as the commencement speaker inspiring graduates and guests in celebration of their accomplishments.  The valedictorian of this year’s graduating class is Shaun Arner, a bachelor’s of science degree graduate in Management Information Systems.  Other graduate highlights include Ryan and Jennifer Cristofaro, husband and wife, graduating together in the ceremony.  Ryan, a veteran of the United States military, is earning his bachelor’s of science in interdisciplinary studies and Jennifer will receive her associate of science degree in Occupational Therapy.

”Keiser University has been serving Florida for nearly 40 years, graduating tens of thousands of students prepared to make an immediate impact in the workforce and as leaders in their communities,” said Belinda Keiser, Vice Chancellor of Community Relations and Student Advancement.  “Annually 62 percent of our graduates are in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) and health care fields and we couldn’t be more proud of their progress and future contributions to Florida’s economy locally and abroad,” she added.

As Keiser University’s very first branch campus, the Melbourne location opened in 1989 and has been serving the community for 25 years.  It is located at 900 South Babcock and supports over 1,000 students pursuing doctoral through associate degrees. To accommodate student demand and increase its degree offerings, the Melbourne campus is undergoing plans for renovation and expansion to begin in the Fall of 2014.

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**About:** 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.

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.