**NEWS RELEASE--***Immediate Release*

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 **Keiser University Welcomes Senator Garrett Richter as the Commencement**

**Speaker for the Fort Myers Graduating Class**

Ft. Myers, FL—June 4, 2014—The faculty and staff of the Fort Myers campus of [Keiser University](http://www.keiseruniversity.edu/), welcome family and friends to the commencement ceremony for the Class of 2014 on Friday, June 6. The graduation will take place at the Harborside Event Center located at 1375 Monroe Street in Fort Myers at 7:00 p.m. The graduates will be given their keynote address by Senator Garrett Richter.

The 140 graduates are fortunate to be addressed by Senator Garrett Richter, President Pro Tempore in the Florida Senate. The Senator is serving his second term in the Senate and was unanimously elected in 2012 to the role of President Pro Tempore. Prior to his terms in the Senate he served one term in the Florida House of Representatives and was a founder, director, President and CEO of First National Bank of Florida. Currently he is a founder, director, and President of the First National Bank of the Gulf Coast in Naples.

“Graduation is a time to celebrate accomplishment!  I am excited to announce Jesse Vellos, as our valedictorian,” said Nancy Tedros, Campus President. “Jesse is one of our first graduates of the Bachelor of Science in CyberForensics/ Information Security and is an example of how Keiser University continues to grow and change with market needs.”

For the Class of 2014 their valedictorian will be Jessie Vellos, a veteran who earned a Bachelor of Science in Cyber Forensics/Information Security. Also earning a Bachelor of Science in Cyber Forensics/Information Security is the salutatorian, Carlos Londono.

As with all graduating classes there are always stories behind each student’s journey to commencement. One such example would be an Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) student who has had much success in the OTA program. Not only has she excelled in her clinical rotations, but also graduated first in her class. In addition to caring for her young children, she was the primary caregiver for her young husband as he gradually succumbed to the fateful effects of brain cancer. Having gained much knowledge and strength from her struggles, Rachel was able to apply and share her experiences with her classmates adding to everyone’s educational experience.

**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.

Sixty-two percent of Keiser University students graduate in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) and health care 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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