Contact: Kimberly Dale / 954-849-5304 / kdale@keiseruniversity.edu

**The Lakeland Campus of Keiser University Receives National Certification for Peer Tutoring Program**

Lakeland, FL—July 14, 2014— The Lakeland campus is pleased to announce that the Student Success Academic Excellence Peer Tutoring Program at KU Lakeland has received Level I Certification from the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA).  This is a huge accomplishment that required an extensive application submission and review process.  CRLA is an internationally-recognized organization that offers external review and accreditation of peer tutor programs at academic institutions.

The Peer Tutoring Program was initiated by faculty and staff at the Lakeland campus based on student inquiries regarding tutoring assistance. The program offers 100 percent free, quality peer tutoring to all students who are looking for assistance. The tutors receive extensive training and are driven to motivate and help their fellow students achieve academic success. The tutors offer flexible hours in many different formats such as group sessions, teleconferences, online assistance, or one-on-one assistance.

“The Academic Excellence Peer Tutoring Program was one of the major 2013 initiatives for the Student Success Team developed as part of an effort to provide quality support and assistance to the student body at the Lakeland campus,” stated Rebecca McDonnell, Campus President. “Our students work hard to achieve their academic and professional goals and it is important to provide them all the tools at our disposal to help them in their journey.”

What makes this unique is CRLA is an internationally recognized organization that provides quality tutoring, mentoring and professional development support to academic institutions. Since 1989 CRLA has been providing certification to peer tutoring program globally via its International Tutor Training Program Certification (ITTPC) process. The process involves a year-long application submission and review.  There are specific guidelines that organizations seeking certification must meet if they want to be recognized as CRLA-certified tutoring programs.  Tutors must be formally trained in several areas and follow specific ethical and professional standards.

**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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