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**NEWS RELEASE –** Immediate Release

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**Keiser University Receives First Place Award at International Academy of Business and Economics**

***Keiser University Graduate School faculty also receive awards for best research in publication***

**Ft. Lauderdale**, FL—April 2, 2015 — Keiser University was honored to receive a first place award at the International Academy of Business and Economics (IABE) in Orlando recently. The award was for “Center of Outstanding Research”, which means best research at the conference as represented by the university researchers.

According to the Editorial Board of the IABE, Keiser University received this award for the research published being of the highest quality and demonstrates a commitment to the advancement of the fields of business and economics. The second place winner was Mahasarakham Business School, Mahasarakham University Thailand; the third place winner was George Washington University.

“This is a tremendous distinction for our Graduate School, which offers doctoral and master’s degrees in fields that are vital to Florida’s diverse economy and global competitiveness,” said Dr. Arthur Keiser, Chancellor and CEO of Keiser University.

Keiser University business degree programs have earned specialized accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).

Members of the Graduate School faculty presented articles they had written.  The articles presented by Graduate School faculty members were, “Emotional Intelligence Applied to Global Sales Channels”, “Supportive Leadership in Community Banks in the Southeast United States: A Comparative Analysis of 2005 and 2011”, “Employers Perception of Online Degrees”, and “The Spirituality Ingredient in Leadership Effectiveness”.

Keiser University Graduate School Research Faculty won two awards for “Best Research Publication in Journal” for their respective journals. The International Journal of Business Research honored Dr. Gerald Sullivan, Dr. Armando Salas-Amaro, Dr. John Fitzgerald, and Dr. Boris Djokic with the Best Research Publication in Journal Award for the paper titled, “Supportive Leadership in Community Banks in the Southeast United States: A Comparative Analysis of 2005 and 2011”. The International Journal of Business Research honored Tim Mantz, Felicia Guity, Richard Mendelson, and Jeff Ritter with the Best Research Publication in Journal Award for the paper titled, “Emotional Intelligence Applied to Global Sales Channels”.

This is the first time that Keiser University has been recognized for the outstanding research performed by faculty members as a Level VI Research Institution, as accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

**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.  Keiser University holds Level VI accreditation signifying recognition of its expanded doctoral degree offerings.

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 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award certificates and degrees at the associate, baccalaureate, masters, specialist, 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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