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

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**U.S. Congressman Carlos Curbelo Addresses Graduates at Keiser University’s Commencement Ceremony**

*Approximately 340 graduates are expected to cross the stage at the Bank United Center*

**Miami**, FL—June 2015—The faculty and staff of the Miami campus welcome family and friends to the commencement ceremony for the Class of 2015 on Saturday, June 6. The graduation will take place at the Bank United Center located at 1245 Dauer Drive in Coral Gables at 10:00 a.m. The nearly 340 graduates will be given their keynote address by Congressman Carlos Curbelo.

The Class of 2015 has a lot of success stories but the two top academic achievers are their valedictorian, Eloina Ciaramello Carbrera who earned her Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies with concentrations in Psychology and Business and Katherine Tycoliz, the salutatorian, who is graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

Ignacio Molina, who served as a sniper in the United States Marine Corps, earned his Associate of Arts degree in Criminal Justice in August of 2014 and turned around and immediately enrolled in the Crime Scene Technology program, which is the degree he is earning at this commencement ceremony. He is currently in the process of beginning the Police Academy with the Florida Keys Community College and once he completes his training, he will be a sworn Crime Scene Investigator with the Monroe County Sheriff’s Office.

“Next year the Miami campus will celebrate its 15th year and as its founding President this gives me great pride and hope for the future,” said Dr. Gary Markowitz, Campus President. “This year’s commencement ceremony includes the campus’s 3,000th graduate and during the ceremony we will be celebrating that contribution to our community.”

This commencement ceremony will be Marilyn Gonzalez’s third with Keiser University. She began her college journey with KU in 2007 and has earned her Associate of Science in Radiologic Technology and Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences degrees prior to her current graduate degree, a Master’s in Education – Allied health Teaching & Leadership. As a single mother of a daughter with special needs, this has been a journey that culminates in a tremendous celebration as she crosses the stage for this honor.

This spring, close to 5,000 Keiser University graduates are expected to cross stages throughout the state signifying completion of their college degrees and the beginning of the next chapter in their professional lives. For the last several years, Keiser University has held the top ranking in Florida and second in the nation for production of associate graduates in the health professions and related clinical sciences. Over 20 percent of Keiser’s student body are veterans, service members or military family members.  Having served and sacrificed for their country, many returning Veterans choose health care fields to continue their life of service.  The US News and World Report ranked Keiser University the thirteenth “Best College for Vets” in the Southern region of colleges in the United States.

Miami native, Congressman Carlos Curbelo grew up in South Florida and attended the University of Miami to earn his Bachelor’s degree and Master’s in Public Administration. In November 2014 he was elected to represent the 26th Congressional District and is one of the youngest members in the U.S. House of Representatives. Prior to being elected to congress he founded a public and media relations firm before going to work for U.S. Senator George LeMieux as his State Director. He was appointed by the Governor to the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization before being elected to serve on the Miami-Dade County School Board. He is also a co-founder of Centre Court Charities, a non-profit organization that runs basketball leagues for high school students during the summer months.

**About Keiser University:** Keiser University is a private, not-for-profit University serving nearly 20,000 students offering 100 degrees at the doctoral through associate level on 17 Florida 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. Statewide Keiser University campuses currently have 60 accredited programs, spanning 21 program offerings, from 18 accrediting agencies/regulatory agencies to ensure that the top industry standards are met in degrees such as nursing, occupational therapy assistant, radiologic technology, physical therapy assistant, physician’s assistant, and many others.

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.

For additional information regarding Keiser University, go to [www.keiseruniversity.edu](http://www.keiseruniversity.edu)

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