In This Issue

• Keiser College Name Change
• Criminal Justice students take a field trip
• Looking Ahead to 2007
• Students participate in Mock Trial
• High School Open House
• SGA 2007 Kickoff
• Job Fair Recap
• Cystic Fibrosis Fundraiser Update
• Student Writing Corner

Looking Ahead to 2007

By William Polmear, Campus President

It is that time of year when it is appropriate to take a few moments to look back at all the positive events that happened in 2006 and to look ahead to more exciting developments next year!

Looking back, 2006 was a very exciting year for all of us associated with Keiser University – Tampa Campus. For example, consider the following important, positive events:

• Two new Associate level programs were introduced – Radiologic Technology and Crime Scene Technology.
• Our accrediting body, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), granted our campus, and all other Keiser College locations, "University" status.
• Speaking of accreditation, we were also granted a 10 year reaffirmation (extension) of our accreditation.
• Monthly student surveys were very positive and favorable this past year which is a real tribute to our faculty and support staff.
• The staff, faculty and students were involved with many community related events designed to give back to the local Tampa community.

The operative words for 2007 for all of us associated with the Tampa Campus will be continued growth. The entire staff and faculty will continue to do all that we can to provide our students the foundation for careers in business, health care and legal fields. We will also continue in our mission to serve the community to include community partnerships, involvement with various constituencies and various continuing education programs. When all is said and done, 2007 should be a very good year for us!

Butterfly Fundraiser Goal Met

Congratulations to the Keiser University Tampa campus for exceeding our $500 Cystic Fibrosis fundraising goal! Thanks to the generosity of the students, faculty, and staff, this fundraiser was a huge success! Last month, 60 butterfly cocoons were delivered to two local elementary schools (Rampello Elementary and Gorrie Elementary) in Tampa. The children were able to monitor the chrysalis in their science labs and then release the butterflies into the garden.
Criminal Justice Students Go To Jail

Don’t worry, none of the Keiser University students were arrested, but rather they spent the day touring two criminal justice facilities in Tampa. Led by Criminal Justice instructor Kristel Romano, the Introduction to Corrections class students Brittney Smiley, Matt Garner, Diana Sooknanan, and Crystal Bing visited Falkenburg Road and Orient Road Jails in November.

Brittney Smiley learned a lot from the visit, and was surprised at how well mannered the inmates were. Brittney states there were two main differences between the facilities. Falkenburg was more of an open layout whereas Orient Road had cells. Between the two, inmates seem to have more privacy at the Orient Road facility. Brittney learned that there are many programs for the inmates such as classes on sewing, computers, and GED prep. When asked about the best part of the tour, she explained that it was great to learn about the ins and outs of a correctional facility, to see how they operate, and to get a glimpse of the daily life that normally someone wouldn’t get to experience. She felt this was a very good learning opportunity and would definitely recommend the tour and class to future students in the criminal justice field.

Diana Sooknanan had a great learning experience as well. She discovered a lot about prison layouts and design and the differences between the three jail generations. She was also interested in the different programs offered to the inmates including agriculture, sewing, and drug treatment. While talking to an employee, Diana learned that guards need at least an A.A. degree now as opposed to solely a high school diploma. One thing that surprised her was that there is only one guard per pod (up to 30 inmates). Her favorite part of the visit was seeing the operation department with the many cameras and tools to keep an eye on the inmates. She was shocked to learn that the cameras on Orient Road could reach as far as downtown Tampa. Diana recommends both the field trip and the field of criminal justice to any student. The salaries are high, there are great benefits, and there is plenty of challenge in the criminal justice field.

Job Fair Helps Students and Employers

Thank you to all the students who attended the job fair. We had 9 employers present and many students took part in the event. The employers had wonderful things to say about our students and school. Make sure to attend the next annual job fair in the Fall of 2007!
Law and Order Comes to the Classroom

Defendant Matt Garner is sworn in. Instructor Kristel Romano serves as Judge.

Criminal Justice students learn first-hand what happens during a criminal trial in a mock court case. After spending hours preparing their cases, student “attorneys” Salita Mason and Crystal Bing question the plaintiff, Brittney Smiley, and defendant, Matt Garner.

In a very theatrical performance, both sides stated their positions and provided evidence to support their claims. Admissions representatives Jaclyn McGregor and Melissa Rodriguez served as jurors along with students from the Computer Security and Networking Management program. Jurors found the defendant to be not guilty legally due to lack of evidence, but personally felt he was less than innocent. Mock trials are a great way for students to obtain hands-on learning about the criminal justice system.

Mock trial participants

Keiser University Welcomes the Class of 2007!

With graduation right around the corner and the majority of High School seniors suffering from severe cases of senioritis, Keiser University invited the Class of 2007 and their parents to an Open House on December 6th to help them with important decisions about their education. Seniors were encouraged to visit the campus to learn about programs offered, tour the classrooms and labs, as well as receive helpful financial aid and scholarship information. They also participated in a scavenger hunt to help familiarize themselves with the staff and win prizes. Kate and the crew from 97X showed up with pizza and refreshments for those in attendance. Several students found their ideal career at Keiser University and are in the process of enrolling. With the success of our first Open House, we look forward to extending the invitation to students again next semester for more exciting events!

Welcome back students and faculty,
From your well-deserved winter break.
But I guess it's back to doing homework,
And passing the exams that we take.

Times are going to get tougher,
And we still have a long road ahead.
I know you wish that instead of studying,
You can just go to bed.

Attending school and having a job,
Makes life not that easy.
Having this lifestyle for these next few years,
Is sure to keep us extremely busy.

But as we all have heard,
The sky is the limit.
So, keep your head up and keep on keepin' on,
And you'll be there in a few minutes.

Now, as we sit in the classroom,
Gaining this useful knowledge.
We must be thankful to have made it this far,
For not everyone gets the opportunity to go to college.

I hope everyone had happy holidays,
I must say this because of our diversity.
And now I welcome everyone,
To their first year at Keiser University.

- Will Ruiz, Radiologic Technology Student