DR. NADINE CONNOR TO HEAD KEISER UNIVERSITY’S NEW MASTER’S OF SCIENCE IN NURSING, FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER DEGREE PROGRAM

Fort Lauderdale, FL—Dec. 11—In response to Florida’s nursing shortage and the national need for nurse practitioners, Keiser University has added the Master’s of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner degree. With the recent passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, nurse practitioners have become the focus of considerable interest with health policy makers, according to a recent study by Rand Corporation (http://www.rand.org/news/press/2013/11/04.html).

Dr. Nadine Connor, board certified, family nurse practitioner with a Doctorate in Nursing Practice from the University of South Florida (USF), Master’s of Science in Nursing from the University of Texas, and a Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing from Columbia University, has been named the Department Chair of the Family Nurse Practitioner Program.

Dr. Connor has taught in the graduate nursing programs at the University of Texas El Paso, the University of Victoria in British Columbia, and at the USF. She spent the last year in Rwanda, Africa working with the Clinton Health Access Initiative and the Rwanda Ministry of Health (Department of Nursing) in the Human Resources for Health Project. As the E-Learning Advisor for the project, Dr. Connor collaborated with faculty from five Schools of Nursing and Midwifery (5SNM) to assess and enhance a newly launched E-Learning program for the undergraduate nursing students from the 5SNM.

“The addition of the family nurse practitioner degree further signifies Keiser University’s long standing commitment to prepare graduates for careers critical to Florida’s economy, and also best serve residents and visitors of our state,” said Belinda Keiser, Vice Chancellor of Community Relations and Student Advancement. “Our future nursing professionals will surely benefit from Dr. Connor’s academic credentials and nursing practice experience, which is well complemented by her caring and compassionate service towards others in need,” added Keiser.

Dr. Connor’s clinical area of expertise is in the care of HIV infected adolescents and adults, particularly in the care of HIV infected women. She has worked in medically underserved clinics on the border of Texas, New Mexico, and Mexico as a National Health Service Corps Scholar and most recently, she worked in all of the free clinics in Tampa, Florida with medical, nursing, public health, and social work students from USF.

“I have been a registered nurse for over 30 years and choosing to become a Family Nurse Practitioner has been one of the best life decisions I have made,” said Connor. “Working clinically with patients and their families and working in an educational capacity with students are the most satisfying experiences. As Family Nurses Practitioners we work collaboratively with our patients, their families, and our consulting physicians. We strive to help our communities achieve the best healthcare outcomes possible,” she added.
The first cohort of Master’s of Science in Family Nurse Practitioner students will start on Jan. 6, 2014. Students will be admitted into the program three times per year and each cohort of students will have approximately 18 students.

Keiser University offers nearly 90 associate through doctoral degrees with a vast majority in the health care, information technology, criminal justice, legal, education, business, and culinary arts fields. Over 62 percent of graduates complete their degrees in the science, technology, engineering, math, and health care fields.

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 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.