KEISER UNIVERSITY

Keiser University Celebrates 40th Anniversary at Fifth Annual Statewide Graduation

Rep. Blaise Ingoglia serves as the keynote speaker

Lakeland, FL– JAN. 2017 – Keiser University is proud to kick-off its 40th year by celebrating our graduates as they walked in the statewide graduation ceremony. More than 2,000 guests attended to see the 360 expected graduates cross the stage. The graduates came from across the country and internationally, including a graduate from Bangladesh.

"The statewide graduation ceremony is undoubtedly the most fulfilling moment for all of us as we share in the celebration of hard work, accomplishment, and commitment of our students, and their families," said Belinda Keiser, Vice Chancellor. "At Keiser University, we encourage lifelong learning, leadership, and community service to prepare each individual student to make a real impact in their professions and communities. We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of each of this year's graduates," she added.

The keynote speaker who addressed the graduates was Representative Blaise Ingoglia, a resident of Spring Hill, who was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in November of 2014 to represent District 35. Ingoglia also serves as the Chairman of the Republican Party of Florida.

Four Florida companies received Employer Choice Awards for their continued hiring of our graduates and their ability to serve as externship/internship sites so students can gain skills needed for today's workforce. These employers play a vital role in the real-world preparation of our students so we are delighted to honor CareerSource Pinellas, Florida Hospital, Lakeland Regional Health, and the PGA National Resort and Spa in Palm Beach Gardens.

The valedictorian for the class of 2016-2017, David Stebbins, earned his Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies from the Lakeland campus. During his educational journey at Keiser he was very active in campus life. The salutatorian, Arthur Mangosing, attended the Tampa campus to earn his Bachelor of Science degree in Cyber Forensics/Information Security.

Also being honored at this ceremony was an employee who received the Distinguished Service Award. Nominees exemplify how community service is inextricably linked to
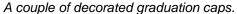
Keiser University's mission of exhibiting sustained efforts in public service, demonstrating significant accomplishment and long-term benefits to recipients and the community. This years Distinguished Service Award recipient is Cassi Oggero, who has worked at the Lakeland campus as a Financial Aid officer for over six years. She helped launch the Student Veterans of America club at the Lakeland campus and serves as their staff advisor. She has been very active helping veterans in the Lakeland community.

About Keiser University: Keiser University, co-founded by Dr. Arthur Keiser, Chancellor in 1977, is a private, not-for-profit University serving nearly 20,000 students offering 100 degrees at the doctoral through associate level on 18 Florida campuses, online and internationally, employing 3,800 staff and faculty.

Ranked #23 by US News & World Report in its 2017 Best Regional Colleges South category, 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, visit www.keiseruniversity.edu.
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A couple of decorated graduation caps.

Graduates posing for pictures prior to the ceremony.

Graduates during invocation at commencement ceremony.