

For Immediate Release

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Keiser University SEAHAWK TANK Pitch Contest Supports Budding Entrepreneurs

West Palm Beach, Florida – March 25, 2019, Keiser University Seahawk students are a bit closer to their entrepreneurial goals thanks to participation in Keiser University's Seahawk Tank Pitch Contest. The competition provides students the opportunity to see their business goals and inventions come to life by providing the opportunity to present their ideas to a panel of industry judges in hopes of winning cash prizes.

Led by Professor George Stamas, the third annual event held at Keiser University's Flagship campus welcomed eight budding entrepreneurs from several Keiser University campuses along with 2018 winner Ross MacPherson for his 'Cricket Juice' idea.

Top winners included:



Noel Jerry: Fort Lauderdale Campus – 1st Place – \$5,000.00 Business Idea: Eco Landscape. An all-electric landscaping company.

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Chaz Hudson: Fort Lauderdale Campus – 2nd Place – \$2,500.00 Business Idea: KEL-5.0. A motorcycle safety harness that connects the passenger to the rider.



Samantha Reinig: Fort Myers Campus – 3rd Place – \$1,250.00 Business Idea: Ginier Metals. Build-to-print metal products using laser etch and water jet technology.

Keiser University thanks its expert team of judges for their deliberations and advice to students. Panel members included:

Robert Mino

Robert Mino is the Vice President of Life Sciences for the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating economic diversity. He focuses his efforts to leverage significant existing assets to grow the vibrant life sciences industry in the area. He also maintains a consulting

and law practice catering to life sciences companies in the areas of intellectual property, due diligence, operations optimization, and corporate law.

Thomas S. Johnson

Tom Johnson spent most of his career in the banking business. He served as president of Chemical Bank and of Manufacturers Hanover Trust, both of which became components of what is now J.P. Morgan Chase. He has been on a number of boards and remains on the boards of Santander Bank USA and the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, which has overseen the rebuilding of lower Manhattan after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. He is also chairman of the Institute of International Education, which runs the Fulbright Scholars Program.

Enrique Suarez

Enrique Suarez is Associate Dean of Academics at the Flagship campus and has more than 20 years of experience in higher education and business. His academic background is in business administration and information systems. He was part of the founding team of the first business incubator of the last academic institution for which he worked. He served as a mentor to the students of the business incubator helping them to develop a dozen small companies and consulting firms.

Michael Olsher, PhD

Dr. Olsher is a seasoned university entrepreneurship professor, senior operating executive, and an international serial entrepreneur. He has been a division head of some of the world's largest metals and minerals companies, as well as having been involved in creating new companies in diverse areas of business including industrial minerals exploration, international metals trading, securities brokerage, real estate development, systems hardware integration, electronic surveillance, international sports representation and sport facilities management.

Keiser University is also thankful to The Keiser Mills Foundation and an anonymous donor for their support. The remaining five contestants each also received \$250.00.

To learn more about Keiser University's Bachelor's of Arts in Business degree in Entrepreneurship please click here.

About Keiser University

Keiser University is a private, not-for-profit university, serving nearly 20,000 students and employing 3,800 faculty and staff members. Co-founded in 1977 by Chancellor Arthur Keiser, Ph.D., and Evelyn Keiser, the university currently offers more than 100 degrees at 21 Florida campuses, as well as online and at two international sites.

Keiser University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges as a level VI institution to award certificates and degrees at the associate, baccalaureate, masters, specialist, and doctoral levels.

For additional information regarding Keiser University, visit <u>www.keiseruniversity.edu</u>.