

October 29, 2019

Lisamarie Winslow, Campus President  
Keiser University Jacksonville  
6430 Southpoint Pkwy #100  
Jacksonville, FL. 32216



JAXUSA partnership, a private, nonprofit division of the JAX Chamber, is Jacksonville's regional economic development initiative. JAXUSA focuses on recruiting new companies, increasing private capital investment and expanding existing businesses. Economic development partners in Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns Counties of Northeast Florida comprise the strong partnership that drives the business development process. Talent is an integral part of the process and our partnerships with CareerSource Northeast Florida and local school districts, colleges and universities help develop and attract a steady stream of skilled workers.

The quality of our workforce determines our region's ability to attract new jobs and capital investment; therefore, JAXUSA partnership is invested in education and talent development. We actively engage our stakeholders in activities designed to align the emerging and existing workforce with employer demand. A key partner in this work is Keiser University Jacksonville. We support Keiser University Jacksonville's pursuit to enhance and expand cybersecurity programming.

Cybersecurity is a fundamental aspect of business operations across all industries. Companies, large and small understand that data breaches are costly and that threat actors dominate the landscape. Therefore, individuals in cybersecurity have a zero percent unemployment rate according to a local industry professional.

In the Jacksonville region, the IT sector continues steady growth. A cross-pollination of IT jobs is represented in all high-growth, high-demand and ancillary sectors. The number of graduates in post-secondary programs struggle to keep pace with demand. According to JOBSEQ data 2019, the average annual increase in jobs over the last decade is 3.1%, with 4,594 high-tech establishments in the region. As 80+ national or divisional headquarters are located in Jacksonville, the market is ripe to hire individuals who can manage the threat landscape via cybersecurity training and expertise.

The feeder system of talent in the region comes from 20+ IT and Technical Education programs ranging from cybersecurity to programming in our secondary schools. These individuals can continue pursuing their cybersecurity education right here in Jacksonville. Individuals completing training have viable job opportunities. According to JOBSEQ 2019, 1,256 IT jobs were posted in Jacksonville last year and 1,189 IT establishments emerged in Jacksonville in 2018.

We look forward to working with Keiser University as they continue to enhance and expand cybersecurity programming to help meet the need for cybersecurity workers in this region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna Lebesch". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr. Anna Lebesch

Vice President of Talent Development, JAXUSA Partnership