

KEISER UNIVERSITY

News Release-For Immediate Release

Dec. 18, 2008

Contact: Kelli Lane, Media Relations, Keiser University
954-235-0331, kellil@keiseruniversity.edu

Keiser University Celebrates First Graduate from its Spanish Language Latin Division

Fort Lauderdale, Florida—Dec. 18, 2008—Fernando Sanchez of Boca Raton is Keiser University's first graduate of the Latin Division, which is comprised of over 100 students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration taught entirely in Spanish. Keiser University Chancellor, Dr. Arthur Keiser, established the Latin Division—believed to be the nation's first--in 2005 as part of the school's ongoing effort to expand its global reach and attract international students to fill the diverse employment needs of the global economy.

"As Florida continues to cement its role as the gateway to the Americas, we are proud of the significant contributions to the workforce that our Hispanic students and graduates are making," said Keiser. "We established the Latin Division at Keiser University, teaching international and local students in their native language and providing them access to an American education as they seek to better their professional opportunities," he added.

Sanchez, a father and grandfather, originally from Ecuador, will use his degree to pursue a consulting position with a business in his native country, while he pursues his master's degree in the United States. Eventually he hopes to become a faculty member in Keiser University's Latin Division.

Sanchez, who also speaks English, believes that when studying in one's native language, it makes it easier for that individual to learn. "Being able to understand each subject, makes it easier to express yourself without being afraid of making mistakes," he said.

After the tragedies of Sept. 11, 2001, Keiser noted that students were having greater difficulty acquiring student visas.

"It is our belief that if Florida is to remain competitive, we need to provide the highest quality education and attract the diverse talent necessary for new industry and business growth at home," said Keiser.

The Latin Division is not Keiser University's only international initiative. The university has cooperative agreements in China and the Eastern European country of Moldova. In 2008, Keiser University ranked twenty-first in the nation for the number of associate degrees awarded to Hispanic students.

Keiser University is Florida's leading private, statewide provider of career-focused, post-secondary education and is regionally accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Keiser University serves approximately 13,000 students seeking associate, bachelor's and master's degrees in over 40 high demand degree programs at its 13 campuses and through E-Campus, the online division. In 2006, Keiser University opened the Graduate School which offers the Executive MBA among a variety of graduate level degrees in education and criminal justice.

According to a *Community College Week* analysis of U. S. Department of Education data released June 16, 2008, Keiser University was named the nationwide leader in production of Associate of Science graduates in Health Professions and Related Sciences for the third straight year (2006-2008).

For more information on Keiser University, visit www.keiseruniversity.edu.