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WGU Washington to Award Over 2,600 Degrees during Sixth Annual Commencement Ceremony News Brief - 4/10/17

Washington Senator Hans Zeiger will address the online university's graduating class

KENT — WGU Washington will confer more than 2,600 bachelor's and master's degrees to students from across the state at its sixth annual commencement ceremony Saturday, May 6. The class of 2017 is the online university's largest since it was founded in 2011.

The 2017 graduating class is roughly 35 percent larger than last year's class of 1,900 graduates. In the six years since state lawmakers established WGU Washington as an affordable, postsecondary educational option, the university's enrollment has grown significantly. Up more than 1,200 percent since 2011, WGU Washington's total enrollment now exceeds 10,000 students — making the online university the sixth largest university in the state.

"We are delighted to help celebrate our grads during our upcoming commencement ceremony," said WGU Washington Chancellor Rich Cummins. "Like all our alumni, this year's class of WGU Washington graduates worked so hard to achieve the dream of a university credential. Now, the class of 2017 join a group of more than 8,000 WGU Washington grads statewide who chose to pursue better lifestyles — for themselves and their families — through education."

Washington Sen. Hans Zeiger will deliver the commencement ceremony's keynote address. Zeiger represents Washington's 25th Legislative District, which includes Puyallup, Fife, South Hill, Summit, Waller, Midland and Parkland. He serves as chair of the Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee. He is also a member of the budget-writing Senate Ways and Means Committee and serves as vice chair of the Senate State Government Committee.

Event Details:

What: WGU Washington Commencement Ceremony

When: Saturday, May 6, 2017, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (end time

approximate)

Where: KeyArena, 305 Harrison St, Seattle, WA 98109

Keynote Speaker: Sen. Hans Zeiger, Washington's 25th Legislative

District

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7004

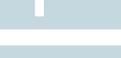
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