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**Elizabeth A. O'Donnell Receives the 2017 Salus University  
Blindness and Low Vision Studies Alumna of the Year Award**

**Elkins Park, PA** – Elizabeth A. O'Donnell, MS '86, COMS, CLVT, TVI, has been selected as the 2017 Blindness and Low Vision Studies Alumna of the Year by the Salus University Alumni Association. This award is presented to an alumnus/alumna of the Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies at Salus University who has distinguished himself/herself through extraordinary service and contributions to the field of blindness and low vision education and rehabilitation, bringing honor and prestige to the University.

O'Donnell has made significant contributions to the field of blindness and low vision through her decades-long career. In 1986, she was hired by the Pennsylvania College of Optometry as the coordinator of the orientation and mobility program for fieldwork and internships while working as a low vision rehabilitation specialist at the William Feinbloom Vision Rehabilitation Center, among other roles. Years later as the orientation and mobility specialist for Delaware County Intermediate Unit, she collaborated with the William Feinbloom Center to bring the low vision clinic to serve the children with whom she worked. Currently serving as adjunct faculty for the Orientation and Mobility Techniques course at the Salus University College of Education and Rehabilitation, she also acts as a supervisor for interns in the program.

O'Donnell has published numerous articles in the *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness* and presented extensively at regional, national and international conferences. She is widely known for her collaboration with Dr. Audrey Smith, with whom she published *Beyond Arms' Reach*, a widely used textbook addressing the specific needs of individuals with low vision within the context of orientation and mobility.

For more information on the awards program or to attend the event, visit [www.salus.edu/alumni-awards](http://www.salus.edu/alumni-awards).

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***About Salus University***

Salus University, founded as the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in 1919, today is a diversified, globally recognized professional academic center of learning that offers a wide range of degree programs in the professions of Optometry, Audiology, Physician Assistant, Public Health, Blindness and Low Vision Studies, Biomedicine, Occupational Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology. Salus operates four clinical facilities in the Philadelphia area that provide highly specialized vision, hearing and balance, and speech-language pathology services. The University has more than 1,200 students, including PhD candidates, and more than 11,300 alumni worldwide. For more information, please visit [www.salus.edu](http://www.salus.edu).