



**For Immediate Release
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Plainsboro Resident Honored with Leadership Award

Elkins Park, Pa. – Tasneem Maner of Plainsboro, N.J., a second-year student at Salus University’s Pennsylvania College of Optometry, was recently honored by VSP Global with the Dr. Marvin R. Poston Leadership Award.

Maner was one of five recipients of the award, which recognizes outstanding optometry students nationwide who exemplify the entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to diversity of Poston, the first African American to be admitted to the University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry and a founder of VSP Vision Care, one of five businesses comprising VSP Global.

“I will continue to affect positive change for minority communities throughout my career,” she said. “I want to stand on the frontline of the movements that teach minorities that they can be successful doctors, teach doctors how to communicate with and respect minorities...and teach the world that it can focus on and enact initiatives for equal access to healthcare for all.”

The winners were named at the National Optometric Association’s (NOA) annual conference last month in Tigard, Ore. All are members of NOSA, the student organization established by NOA. Recipients also receive a one-time financial award of \$4,000.

“This award honors up-and-coming leaders in optometry who reflect the important legacy of Dr. Poston, which was founded on a commitment to diversity and helping others,” said Jarrett Johnson, OD, MPH, VSP Global board member who spoke at the conference.

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.