



For Immediate Release  
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Contact: Macy Zhelyazkova  
215.780.1284

### **Horsham Optometrist Honored with Salus University Alumni Award**

Elkins Park, Pa. – David R. McPhillips OD, FAAO, FVI has received the Albert Fitch Memorial Alumnus of the Year Award for 2018, presented by the Salus University Alumni Association.

The award is presented to an alumnus of the University's Pennsylvania College of Optometry who has distinguished himself/herself through extraordinary service and contributions to the profession of optometry, bringing honor and prestige to PCO.

Dr. McPhillips no doubt fits the bill for the prestigious award. Serving the Horsham, Pa., community with his private practice for 24 years, he has also served as president of the Pennsylvania Optometric Association and is involved with the American Optometric Association, American Academy of Optometry, and the Philadelphia and Montgomery County Optometric Associations.

In addition, Dr. McPhillips is an impassioned champion of Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH). Having participated in over 50 missions to developing nations around the world, he also co-founded the Pennsylvania chapter of VOSH and served as the president of VOSH International from 2013 through 2015. While on the missions, Dr. McPhillips developed and supported permanent eye clinics in Haiti as well as Guatemala and has been instrumental in working with Haiti's medical school to implement the country's first optometric program.

He is a strong advocate of the optometric profession on both a state and local level and is passionately involved in lobbying for legislation. "Legislation can change the optometry profession overnight and it affects all of us," he said about his dedication. "When I first got the call about getting this award, I thought it had to be a mistake – I look at the list of previous winners and they are pillars in optometry – people who were critical in developing the expansion of our profession – it was very, very humbling," he said.

**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 Philadelphia and Montgomery counties that provide highly specialized vision, hearing and balance, and speech-language pathology services. The University has more than 1,200 students, and more than 11,300 alumni worldwide. For more information, please visit [www.salus.edu](http://www.salus.edu).