



Office of Public Information

News Release

Media contact:

Jennifer Reeger, Director of Media Relations, 724-830-1069 (work) 724-433-9613 (cell)
jreeger@setonhill.edu

Alexis Abate, Director of Communications, 215.780.1390 (work) 267.318.0351 (cell)
aabate@salus.edu

Seton Hill, Salus University Osborne College of Audiology Sign First-Ever Audiology Degree Articulation Agreement

Historic Signing Brings Doctor of Audiology Degree to Southwestern Pennsylvania

Greensburg, Pa. – Salus University Osborne College of Audiology (OCA) in Elkins Park, Pa. and Seton Hill University in Greensburg, Pa. have entered into an articulation agreement for a 4 + 4 Doctor of Audiology degree program.

Salus University Osborne College of Audiology is the first and only college of audiology in the United States, and the agreement with Seton Hill is its first-ever articulation agreement with a baccalaureate program.

The agreement will allow qualified Seton Hill University students who have completed a pre-audiology program of study to enter Salus University Osborne College of Audiology to complete the four-year Doctor of Audiology program.

Once at Salus, students in OCA will learn through a patient-centered holistic approach that focuses on the need to not only care for patients but also about them. The program has an emphasis on biomedical science, an extensive clinical education and a thorough training in practice management.

The on-campus clinical facility, the Pennsylvania Ear Institute, provides students with the necessary access to hands-on training. They will enter the audiology profession with more than 2,500 hours of clinical experience with patients ranging from pediatric to elderly populations, useful practice management training, and exceptional patient care skills.

“Seton Hill University continues to look for academic programs and partnerships that both meet the needs of students and provide critical services to residents in the Pittsburgh region and beyond,” said Mary C. Finger, Ed.D., Seton Hill University

President. "Audiology is among the fastest growing professions in the country, and, as our population ages, more and more of these health care professionals will be needed. With more than 40 percent of Seton Hill undergraduates majoring in Health Sciences, the University is excited to work with Salus University to provide yet another opportunity for Seton Hill students to continue their education."

"We are excited about this new agreement with Seton Hill, an institution that shares our commitment to training future audiologists," said Dr. Radhika Aravamudhan, interim dean of the University's Osborne College of Audiology. "As the first and only College of Audiology in the nation, we look forward to working in partnership with Seton Hill to provide students with the education and preparation they require to ensure they are uniquely qualified to diagnose, treat, and manage patients with hearing and balance disorders."

"The need for trained audiologists is evidenced by a recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study that revealed 40 million Americans, including a quarter of the population ages 20 to 69, are suffering from hearing loss even though more than half of them are not exposed to loud noises at work," said Seton Hill University Provost Susan Yochum, SC, Ph.D. "Even more alarming, 19 percent of adults ages 20 to 29 are suffering from hearing deficits. As hearing loss only worsens with age – and with hearing issues being twice as common as diabetes and cancer - health care professionals trained to diagnose and treat hearing and balance disorders are of critical importance. The agreement between Seton Hill and Salus University Osborne College of Audiology will put Seton Hill students on a path to a rewarding career that will allow them to help people hear the world around them again."

The clinical Doctor of Audiology (AuD) education program in audiology at Salus University Osborne College of Audiology is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech Language-Hearing Association

The agreement is the second that Seton Hill has entered into with Salus University. Seton Hill and Salus University Pennsylvania College of Optometry recently signed an agreement on a 3 + 4 Doctor of Optometry degree program.

About Seton Hill University

A coeducational Catholic university located in Greensburg, Pa., Seton Hill embraces students of all faiths and offers more than 40 undergraduate programs along with eight graduate programs, an Adult Degree Program and many advanced certifications. Seton Hill, founded in 1885, offers students the benefit of a long history of educational excellence in the liberal arts. As a national leader in incorporating mobile technologies into teaching and learning, Seton Hill also supplies graduates with the skills they need to adapt to whatever careers they choose – even those that have yet to be created. For more information on Seton Hill's academic programs, technology initiatives and groundbreaking Centers, please visit www.setonhill.edu or call [1-800-826-6234](tel:1-800-826-6234).

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.