



For Immediate Release
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Salus University Turns Ten

Elkins Park, Pa. – On July 1, Salus University celebrated its tenth anniversary with a photo shoot and a commemorative poster signing. Founded as Pennsylvania State College of Optometry (PSCO) in 1919, it was the first to award a legislature-approved Doctor of Optometry Degree. It operated as Pennsylvania College of Optometry (PCO) until the institution was granted university status by the Pennsylvania Department of Education on January 31, 2008. The official name change to Salus University occurred on July 1, 2008.

Today, Salus has four doctoral level programs and eleven master's level graduate and professional degree programs in health science. The University has also expanded its clinical services from The Eye Institute (TEI) to include the Pennsylvania Ear Institute (PEI) and the Speech-Language Institute (SLI), both located on the University's Elkins Park campus.

"Since our inception as a single purpose optometry school, we have led the way in clinical innovation, professional advocacy and placing our patients at the center of all we do," said Michael H. Mittelman, OD' 80, MPH, President of Salus University. "As we celebrate our tenth anniversary as a multifaceted health professions university, our namesake, Salus, the Roman Goddess of well-being, health and prosperity, embodies our mission of advancing integrated healthcare through innovative education, research and clinical services."

The University's first decade has been marked with growth by adding programs in biomedicine, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology to the existing optometry, blindness and low vision, audiology, and physician assistant studies. It has also undergone multiple renovations for its clinics, classrooms, labs, and library. In 2017, TEI finished its final phase of an \$11 million renovation by opening CityLife Neighborhood Clinics, a primary care medical practice on the upper level to better serve the Oak Lane, Philadelphia community's needs.

On the Elkins Park campus, the library was transformed into the Learning Resource Center (LRC) which serves as the main focal point of the campus. The optometry program also received a transformative renovation with the redesign and expansion of the Clinical Skills Laboratory. The latest renovation, the "Lombardi Classroom," will be completed by August and offers the latest advances in classroom technology.

In the decades ahead, the University will continue to play a leadership role in curricular innovation, political action, and clinical expansion.

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 six 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 14,000 alumni worldwide. For more information, please visit www.salus.edu.