



For Immediate Release  
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**U.S. Navy Surgeon General Announced as Salus University  
White Coat Ceremony Speaker**

**Elkins Park, Pa.** – Vice Adm. Forrest Faison, U.S. Navy surgeon general, will address incoming students during Salus University’s White Coat ceremony Thursday, Aug. 17, at 2 p.m., in Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, 300 S. Broad St., Philadelphia.

The ceremony represents the transition from student to healthcare provider as the incoming students receive the symbol of their profession – the white coat. Recipients are from the University’s clinical specialties, including optometry, audiology, physician assistant studies, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology.

Faison, who also serves as chief of the Navy’s Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, is board certified in pediatrics and is an associate clinical professor of pediatrics at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. He has published widely on neurodevelopmental outcomes of premature infants as well as the future of Wounded Warrior care and the use of telemedicine and health informatics in healthcare.

He earned his bachelor’s degree from Wake Forest University and his medical degree from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. He completed post-graduate training in general pediatrics at the Naval Hospital San Diego and fellowship training in neurodevelopmental pediatrics at the University of Washington.

“We are honored that Vice Admiral Faison will deliver the keynote address to our students at this milestone event in the beginning of their careers,” said Michael H. Mittelman, OD, MPH, FAAO, President of Salus University. “Vice Adm. Faison and I have served together several times and I know first-hand about his impressive array of professional accomplishments and how he will serve as an inspiration for those embarking on their healthcare career trajectories.”

**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).