

Commencement Offers Some Normalcy to the Class of 2021

When the Class of 2021 students in the Physician Assistant (PA) Studies program started two years ago, they were only six months into their graduate schooling when the pandemic hit. And, up until graduation day, the challenges the class faced and the adjustments the students had to make made walking to receive their diplomas — the first in-person commencement ceremony for the University since the pandemic — even more special.

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Graduate Luncheon, Long White Coat Ceremony Honors the Class of 2021

Just in case they'd forgotten — spoiler, they probably hadn't — the Physician Assistant (PA) Studies Class of 2021 president **Kaitlyn Carmo, MMS '21**, wanted to remind her classmates they'd all gone through 17 practicals, 18 quizzes, 83 exams and 39 presentations and papers on their way to where they were sitting on the evening of Oct. 11.

Held at the Hafter Student Community Center on the University's Elkins Park, Pennsylvania campus, the PA Class of 2021 cohort received their long white coats in a ceremony the evening before commencement.

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Surpin Sendoff Simply Spectacular

Jo Surpin was simply overwhelmed, to the point that she almost couldn't speak.

The outgoing Salus University Board of Trustees chair, who relinquished her spot effective July 1, 2021, after 14 years at the helm, was honored at a ceremony Sept. 27, 2021, that included recognition of the Presidential Medal of Honor and Alumni Association award winners for the past two years.

That's where she and those in attendance listened to a detailed account of her many accomplishments during her time on the board, courtesy of Salus president **Michael H. Mittelman, OD '80, MPH, MBA, FAAO, FACHE**.

And, it was, well, a lot for her to take in all at once.

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