



For Immediate Release  
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**Dr. Rachel L. Levine, Pa.'s Acting Secretary of Health and Physician General,  
To Deliver Salus University Fall Commencement Address**

Elkins Park, Pa. – Rachel L. Levine, M.D., Acting Secretary of Health and Physician General for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, will deliver Salus University's 2017 commencement address on Monday, October 9, at 2 p.m., at the Perelman Theater in the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, 300 S. Broad St., Philadelphia. Dr. Levine, who will receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree at the ceremony, will address the Salus University graduates from the Fall Class of 2017.

As Physician General, Dr. Levine has made significant strides combating the opioid epidemic and advocating on behalf of the LGBTQ population. She spearheaded the efforts to establish opioid prescribing guidelines and establish opioid prescribing education for medical students. She has also led an LGBTQ workgroup for the governor's office, which has worked to create programs and processes that are fair and inclusive in healthcare, insurance and many other distinct areas. Recently, Dr. Levine was recognized as one of NBC's Pride 30, a national list of 30 people who are both members of and making a difference in the lives of the LGBTQ community.

"We are honored to have Dr. Levine deliver the keynote address at our Fall Commencement," said Dr. Michael H. Mittelman, Salus University president. "She will offer our graduating students a unique perspective on healthcare, and help them understand the need for quality healthcare wherever they decide to serve."

Dr. Levine graduated from Harvard College and the Tulane University School of Medicine. She completed her training in Pediatrics at the Mt. Sinai Medical Center in New York City and completed a fellowship in Adolescent Medicine there. Following her fellowship, she practiced pediatrics and adolescent medicine in New York City and was on the faculty of the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine. She came to central Pennsylvania in 1993 as the director of Ambulatory Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine at the Polyclinic Medical Center. In 1996 she joined the staff at the Penn State Hershey Medical Center as the director of Pediatric Ambulatory Services and Adolescent Medicine. Currently,

she teaches at the Penn State College of Medicine on topics in adolescent medicine, eating disorders and transgender medicine.

### **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).