



For Immediate Release
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U.S. Navy Veteran, Dr. Michael Cowan, Set to Speak at Salus University's White Coat Ceremony

Elkins Park, Pa. – Next week, physician and vice admiral Michael Cowan (retired), who served 33 years in the United States Navy, will address Salus University's incoming students at the annual White Coat ceremony hosted at the Kimmel Center for the Performing arts in Philadelphia.

Representing the transition from student to professional-in-training, the University's first-year students from all programs will receive the symbol of their profession – the white coat.

Dr. Cowan earned his MD from Washington University, St. Louis, and completed his residency and fellowship training at the Navy Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. He had a long and illustrious career with the U.S Navy, culminating in his selection as the 34th Naval Surgeon General and Chief Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in 2001.

Throughout his naval career, Dr. Cowan served as an academician, practitioner, researcher and teacher with numerous tours of duty around the world. He held several prominent leadership and management positions affecting nearly every aspect of peacetime and wartime healthcare. Particularly notable was his service as the joint staff surgeon, deputy executive director of TRICARE, and as Navy Surgeon General.

"In academics, we most often celebrate the end of a journey with the graduation ceremony," said Dr. Cowan. "But the future is more exciting than the past, and the

upcoming ceremony that you and Salus University have will celebrate the beginning of your professional career. It will be a day you will always remember. I look forward to joining students, their families and future faculty of Salus University for this joyous and momentous event.”

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 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. Salus is currently celebrating a century of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, its founding school. For more information about the legacy, please visit www.salus.edu/centennial.