



For Immediate Release
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Salus University Set to Break Ground on an Outdoor Sensory Garden

Elkins Park, Pa. – This summer, Salus University will break ground on an outdoor sensory garden environment that will be used as a teaching and clinical tool next summer.

A sensory garden will add value to the teaching and learning environment for each of the programs within the University's College of Education and Rehabilitation (CER) – including Blindness and Low Vision Studies, Speech-Language Pathology and Occupational Therapy – as well as provide strategic outreach for children and adults within the local community who have sensory deficits.

"Salus University is positioned well, both geographically and educationally, to develop a sensory garden to meet the needs of our students, staff, alumni, and community," interim CER dean, Barbara Schwartz-Bechet, MS, EdD, said. "As the Salus University mission dictates, 'Advancing integrated healthcare through innovative education, research and clinical services,' it is the innovation of developing an additional opportunity for learning and providing services to and within the populations of clients whom our students serve."

In addition to hosting classes, students in each of the programs would utilize the garden in a variety of ways, including education and recreation to elements linking with each program's curriculum or being utilized in a more informal learning setting in addition to social and relaxation opportunities. Individual seating areas will also be provided for a variety of users as well as an area(s) for small groups.

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.