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**DAVID B. NASH, MD, MBA, FOUNDING DEAN OF JEFFERSON COLLEGE OF POPULATION HEALTH, TO RECEIVE HONORARY DEGREE AND DELIVER SALUS UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**

**Elkins Park, PA** – David B. Nash, MD, MBA, founding dean of Jefferson College of Population Health (JCPH) at Thomas Jefferson University, will deliver Salus University’s commencement address on Thursday, May 25 at 2 p.m. at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia. Dr. Nash will address the Salus University Class of 2017, comprised of those receiving doctoral and master’s degrees in the professions of Optometry, Audiology, Biomedicine, Public Health, Occupational Therapy, Vision Rehabilitation Teaching, Orientation and Mobility, Blindness and Low Vision Impairment and for the first time, Speech-Language Pathology. During the ceremony, he will be presented with an Honorary Degree, Doctor of Science, the highest degree awarded by the University.

Dr. Nash’s appointment as founding dean of JCPH in 2008 capped his 25-year tenure on the faculty of Thomas Jefferson University. He is also the Dr. Raymond C. and Doris N. Grandon Professor of Health Policy. A board-certified internist, Dr. Nash is internationally recognized for his work in public accountability for outcomes, physician leadership development and quality-of-care-improvement, and has been named to Modern Healthcare’s list of Most Powerful Persons in Healthcare numerous times. He has a wide scope of pro bono national activities including principal faculty member for Quality of Care programming for the American Association of Physician Leaders; member of the National Quality Forum task force on Improving Population Health; founding member of the American Association of Medical College’s Integrating Quality Steering Committee; and chair of the Technical Advisory Group of the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council.

“We are honored to have Dr. Nash deliver the keynote address at our spring commencement and are proud to award him an honorary degree,” said Dr. Michael Mittelman, Salus University president. “He will offer our students a unique perspective on how healthcare providers, such as our graduates working within an integrated healthcare system, will impact the delivery and outcomes of healthcare around the world.”

Dr. Nash has served in both the not-for-profit and for-profit healthcare sector. Currently, he is on the board of Main Line Health where he also chairs the board committee on Quality and Safety. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Population Health Alliance (formerly DMAA). In the for-profit sector, Dr. Nash was named to the Board of Directors for Humana, Inc. in 2009. In October 2013 he joined the board of Vestagen Technical Textiles, a privately held advanced medical textile company and the board of InfoMC, a leading information technology company. He is also on the Arsenal Capital Partners health care advisory board.

Dr. Nash has been the recipient of many awards, including the top recognition award from the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy in 1995; the 1997 *Philadelphia Business Journal* Healthcare Heroes Award; the 2006 Elliot Stone Award for leadership in public accountability for health data from the National Association of Health Data Organizations; the 2009 Wharton Healthcare Alumni Achievement Award; and both the Joseph Wharton award in recognition of his “social impact” and the *Philadelphia Business Journal* innovation award in medical education in 2012.

Through publications, public appearances, his “Nash on the Road” blog, and an online column on MedPage Today, Dr. Nash routinely reaches more than 100,000 persons every month. He has authored more than 100 articles in major peer-reviewed journals and has edited 23 books. He is the Editor-in-Chief of four major national journals including *American Journal of Medical Quality*, *Population Health Management*, *P&T*, and *American Health and Drug Benefits*.

Dr. Nash received his BA in economics (Phi Beta Kappa) from Vassar College, his MD from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and his MBA in Health Administration (with honors) from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. While at Penn, he was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar and Medical Director of a nine-physician faculty group practice in general internal medicine.

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### ***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).