



Salus at Drexel University

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Flag Raising Ceremony Marks Next Step in the Merger Between Salus and Drexel Universities

Elkins Park, Pa. - The Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) has approved the merger of Salus University with Drexel University. To commemorate this significant milestone, the Drexel University flag will be raised at a flag-raising ceremony on **Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2024, at 10 a.m.** to symbolize the next step in this partnership.

Effective June 30, 2024, Salus University's non-academic operational units started integrating into Drexel's structure. This marked the first step in the merger process.

Further approvals from the U.S. Department of Education, specifically regarding the merger and the combination of the two universities for participation in federal financial aid programs, is expected around June 30, 2025. Until then, Salus will continue to operate as a separate, degree-granting, educational institution. In the second phase of the merger, most of Salus University's programs will operate under Drexel's College of Nursing and Health Professions, and for accreditation purposes, the Pennsylvania College of Optometry (PCO) will operate as a stand-alone college.

WHO: Special remarks will be given by **Dr. Michael H. Mittelman**, president of Salus at Drexel University; **John Fry**, president of Drexel University; and **Kristen Battista**, Doctor of Audiology student and Student Council president, Salus at Drexel. Drexel Interim President Denis O'Brien and Provost Paul Jensen, PhD, will also be in attendance.

WHAT: Salus and Drexel will celebrate the first approval in the ongoing merger between the two institutions with a flag raising ceremony.

WHERE: Salus at Drexel University Campus - Pond/Flagpole area
8360 Old York Road, Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, 19027

WHEN: Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 10 a.m.

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About Salus at Drexel University

Salus University was established in 2008 by the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, which celebrates its 105th anniversary this year. A diversified, globally recognized, professional academic center of learning, Salus has merged with Drexel University, pending approval by the United States Department of Education, specialized accreditors, and additional third parties. The Pennsylvania College of Optometry will become a stand-alone college at Drexel University and the majority of Salus at Drexel's academic programs will be included within Drexel's College of Nursing and Health Professions. For more information, please visit salus.edu/drexel-integration.

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