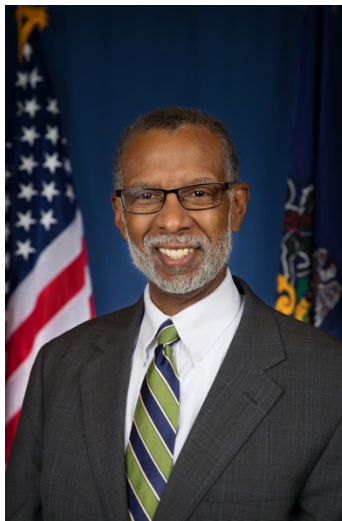




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State Sen. Art Haywood Will Address Fall Salus University Graduates



State Sen. Art Haywood

Elkins Park, Pa. — State Sen. Arthur L. Haywood III will deliver the commencement address to Salus University class of 2020 fall graduates receiving healthcare degrees during a virtual ceremony that will take place Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 2 p.m.

The University's 121st commencement is the second ceremony moved online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In his speech, Haywood, who represents the 4th District, including parts of Montgomery and Philadelphia counties, will emphasize the current challenges the U.S. is facing – especially those caused by the global pandemic and racial injustice.

“We are honored and thrilled to have Senator Art Haywood as our keynote speaker and honorary degree recipient for our fall commencement,” Salus President **Michael Mittelman, OD '80, MPH, MBA, FAAO, FACHE**, said. “Senator Haywood has been a champion for civil rights,

eliminating homelessness and providing safe and affordable housing for Pennsylvanians throughout his long and distinguished career, first as an attorney and now a state senator. His leadership, compassion and dedication to those he serves has resulted in significant legislative changes – improving the lives of thousands living in the Commonwealth.”

A civic leader from a young age, Haywood’s early work, following his graduation from law school in the 1980s, involved saving families from foreclosures and assisting nonprofit organizations with neighborhood revitalizations.

After serving as president of the Board of Commissioners of Cheltenham since 2009, he was elected state senator for the 4th District in 2014, then re-elected in 2018.

Haywood has worked to reduce homelessness through the expansion of the Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) fund. Additionally, he has secured \$195 million in federal funds for COVID-19 pandemic rent, mortgage and housing assistance, passed requirements to test for lead in water in Pennsylvania schools, and championed legislation to relocate domestic violence survivors living in public housing.

After receiving a bachelor’s degree from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, Haywood studied abroad, earning a master’s degree from the London School of Economics, and then a law degree from the University of Michigan Law School in 1985.

During the ceremony, which is normally hosted at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia, Dr. Mittelman will confer an honorary Doctor of Laws degree to Haywood. Ashley Senss, ’20 MMS, a member of the Physician Assistant graduating class, will also address the class of 2020 as their official commencement speaker for the virtual fall ceremony.

Graduates, their families and friends are invited to watch the University’s virtual ceremony, featuring a live stream chat and the hashtag #SalusGrad on social media.

To watch the ceremony, visit salus.edu/commencement.

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, 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.