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Two Salus University Orthotics and Prosthetics Students Receive the 2023 Hanger Foundation Diversity Scholarship

Elkins Park, PA – Two Salus University Orthotics and Prosthetics (O&P) students, **Gianna Azcona '26O&P** and **Juan Argueta '26O&P**, recently received the 2023 Hanger Foundation Diversity Scholarship.

The [Hanger Foundation](#) launched the Hanger Foundation Diversity Scholarship in 2021 as part of its commitment to diversity and inclusion in the O&P profession. The new program diversifies the foundation's offerings, while still committing to advance communities by supporting charitable organizations that help people with limb loss, limb difference and other physical challenges.

The scholarships supplement the cost of the two-year Master of Science in Orthotics and Prosthetics program at Salus and offers a two-year mentorship with the option of pursuing a residency with Hanger Clinic. They offer extensive, personalized support in finding prosthetics or orthopedic care that will help patients regain their strength and spirit.

"The scholarship will take away a lot of the financial stress that I am going to face after my time at Salus, and it allows me to focus on my education and career rather than my finances," said Azcona. "I am happy to see that the Hanger Foundation feels this greatly about the racial disparities in the O&P profession. It makes me excited for my career, and helping minority groups in the profession in the future."

Argueta also attested to the impact the scholarship will have on him. "It will help lessen the weight of student loans, and give me a big boost of confidence for what I have accomplished so far, in my life and career," he said. "It is a huge recognition on behalf of the Hanger Foundation."

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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, Education and Rehabilitation for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Biomedicine, Occupational Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology. Salus operates three 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 14,300 alumni worldwide. For more information, please visit www.salus.edu.

About the Hanger Foundation:

The Hanger Foundation was founded in 2009 by Hanger, Inc., a leading provider of orthotic and prosthetic patient care services and solutions. Hanger's heritage of charitable giving began over 160 years ago. For many years, Hanger clinicians and employees consistently and generously donated millions of dollars in care and financial contributions to a variety of causes, including hardship cases in their own communities. In 2009, Hanger formalized and increased its philanthropic work by establishing a non-profit organization, the Hanger Foundation. For more information, visit <https://www.hangerfoundation.org>.