Salus University entered into an agreement with Qassim University of Buraydah, Saudi Arabia, to provide strategic collaboration designed to advance Qassim's optometric educational program. The three-year agreement includes a targeted faculty development program in which faculty from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University (PCO) will visit Qassim University annually to provide advanced education to both faculty and students. In addition, PCO will provide optometric rotations at its Elkins Park, Pa., campus for seventh-year students enrolled in the Qassim University optometry program. Salus will also help Qassim explore international accreditation.



Representatives from Qassim University and a faculty member or dean from each Salus University college were present for the signing of the agreement.

The joint initiative also involves the Public Health department at Salus, which will conduct a feasibility study to benchmark the Qassim optometry program internationally. Dr. Anthony Di Stefano, Salus University Vice President of Academic Affairs, noted in a press release, "This is an historical moment in the development of both universities. Our shared vision will serve as a strategic foundation for building global alliances and advancing public health optometry worldwide."