Clemson University at a Glance

We have much to be proud of here at Clemson University. As we continue to be recognized on the national stage, we are working harder than ever to position Clemson for the next generation of students — and to make a real impact on issues facing the people of South Carolina and the nation. We are striving to continue Clemson’s legacy of excellence — now and forever.

U.S. News & World Report ranks Clemson

#1 in the state for student’s return on investment
#6 in alumni giving among public universities
#7 average freshmen ACT scores among all public universities
#23 among the nation’s public universities

National Rankings from The Princeton Review prove that the Tigers are strong national players!

#3 for “Students Love These Colleges”
#5 for “Students Pack the Stadium”
#5 for “Student Career Services”
#9 for “Town-Gown Relations”
#10 for “Everyone Plays Intramural Sports”

Other recent accomplishments include:

• Clemson is 1 of 11 programs – out of all public and private national universities — recognized for Writing across all Disciplines, U.S. News & World Report, 2016
• Named a “best value among public colleges,” Kiplinger’s
• #12 “Best public college,” Money magazine

Ranked in the Top 25

among national public universities for the ninth straight year, Clemson University is a science and engineering oriented research university characterized by high academic standards, a culture of public service, school spirit and a competitive drive to excel. Our goal is to be a recognized leader in innovative research, student engagement, the undergraduate and graduate academic core, and the diverse and inclusive learning and working environment of the University.
LEADERSHIP

Clements is a nationally recognized leader in higher education who has served as president of a university in three different athletic conferences — the Big East, the Big 12 and the ACC. In 2015, he was awarded an honorary degree as Doctor of Public Education from his alma mater, the University of Maryland Baltimore County. He has published and presented more than 75 papers in the fields of computer science, higher education, information technology, project management and strategic planning. Clements’ Successful Project Management book is now in its seventh edition and is published in multiple languages and used in numerous countries. He has served as principal investigator or co-investigator on more than $15 million in research grants.

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Atlantic Coast Conference Council of Presidents: member and current chair; American Council on Education: member, board of directors and past chair, commission on leadership; Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities: member, executive committee and past chair of the board of directors; member, executive committee, commission on innovation, competitiveness and economic prosperity; National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship: co-chair; Business-Higher Education Forum: member, executive committee; National Innovation Advisory Board: past member; and the Council on Competitiveness: member and co-chair of the energy and manufacturing competitiveness partnership committee.

EDUCATION

Clements holds a B.S. in computer science and an M.S. and Ph.D. in operations analysis from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, as well as an M.S. in computer science from Johns Hopkins University.

PRESIDENT JAMES P. CLEMENTS

James P. Clements became Clemson University’s 15th president on Dec. 31, 2013. Since his arrival, the value of the Tiger Paw has never been higher, thanks to an increasing academic reputation and the national exposure from our recent success in athletics. Under Clements’ leadership, Clemson applications for admission have increased more than 26%; African-American undergraduate enrollment has increased more than 12%; faculty diversity increased 16%; research funding increased 37%; and Clemson was designated a Research 1 University by the Carnegie Classification for Institutions of Higher Education. Clemson sports finished in 5th place in the 2016 Capital One Cup due to three ACC titles and two national championship appearances. $700 million in facilities construction was completed. And the record-setting Will to Lead for Clemson campaign raised $1,062,528,346.

BIOGRAPHY

Clements was born in Arlington, Va. He is the grandson of a coal miner and a firefighter, and son of parents who taught him that education was the key to a better life. Clements is a first-generation college graduate. This was a key reason he pursued a life and career in higher education — to give others the opportunity he was given.

Before he came to Clemson, Clements served as the president of West Virginia University (WVU) for nearly five years. During that time, WVU set significant records in private fundraising, enrollment and research funding. He was a leader in West Virginia — chairing the boards of the West Virginia United Health System, the WVU Hospitals and the WVU Research Corporation.

Prior to his service at WVU, Clements served as provost and vice president for academic affairs, vice president for economic and community outreach and the Robert W. Deutsch Distinguished Professor of Information Technology at Towson University, the second largest university in the University System of Maryland. He was a four-time winner of the Faculty Member of the Year award, given by Towson students.

Clements and his wife Beth have been married for 25 years and have four children — Ty, Hannah, Maggie and Grace — and a son-in-law, Tanner Coombs.