Clemson University

Setting a standard of excellence today and forever.

Ranked No. 21 among national public universities, 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 attract and retain top faculty and students, and provide the engagement opportunities, facilities and technology necessary for their success.
James P. Clements became Clemson University’s 15th president on December 31, 2013. He is also a Professor in the School of Computing, College of Engineering and Science at Clemson.

Under his leadership, Clemson has reached several milestones — the largest campus development initiative in University history; a record number of student applications with the strongest academic profile in University history; and record-breaking years in fundraising during the Will to Lead for Clemson Capital Campaign.

**LEADERSHIP**

Clements is a nationally recognized leader in higher education who currently serves on the executive committee of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, North America’s oldest higher education association. Annually, APLU’s 235 member institutions enroll 4.7 million undergraduates and 1.3 million graduate students, grant 1.1 million degrees and conduct $41 billion in university-based research. He serves on the executive committee of APLU’s Commission on Innovation, Competitiveness and Economic Prosperity, serves as the national co-chair of the Energy Forum and is the past-chair of the APLU Board of Directors.

Clements is a member of the American Council of Education (ACE) board and serves as Chair of the ACE Commission on Leadership. He co-chairs the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship (NACIE); serves on the executive committee of the Business Higher Education Forum, and serves on the Council of Competitiveness. Clements previously served on the U.S. Commerce Department’s Innovation Advisory Board, where he was the only university president in the country to serve in that role.

**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. He has published and/or presented more than 75 papers in the fields of computer science, higher education, information technology, project management and strategic planning. He also served as principal investigator or co-PI on more than $15 million in research grants. Before he came to Clemson, Clements served as the president of West Virginia University for nearly five years.

**EXPERIENCE**

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, where he was a four-time winner of the Faculty Member of the Year Award, given by Towson students. He also led the Center for Applied Information Technology, which was a strategic, entrepreneurial initiative for the university, chaired Towson’s Department of Computer and Information Sciences, and was a consultant to numerous private-sector companies. His Successful Project Management book is now in its 6th edition and is published in multiple languages and used in numerous countries.

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

Blog: newsstand.clemson.edu/president  
Twitter: @ClemsonPrez