We believe that “Once a Tiger, always a Tiger.” But with more than 4,000 freshmen and transfer students arriving every fall, comes a new group — a group unfamiliar with all that makes Clemson uniquely Clemson. They don’t know the pride of wearing the Ring or the camaraderie of homecoming. They’ve never tried Clemson ice cream, visited Fort Hill or stood with other Tigers, hands held high, at the end of the alma mater. And they have not yet learned the full value of a degree from one of the nation’s finest public universities.

As graduates leave for careers all around the world, who sustains those traditions? Who ensures that the things you hold dear from your time at Clemson continue year after year? Who binds together this network of graduates in a community that offers support, fellowship and resources to the University and to each other? Clemson Alumni.

Supporting the organization that supports you.

Among alumni associations, Clemson’s is unique. There are no dues. There have never been dues, charges or membership fees since the organization began in 1896. The goal is to be inclusive. And the open-door policy today welcomes more than 132,000 alumni, joined in more than 70 Clemson Clubs and 18 alumni groups across the U.S. and on every continent (except Antarctica). There are clubs and groups for all interests. In addition to the larger Alumni Association, there are the MBA Alumni Society, National Scholars Alumni, Clemson Alumni Society for Equity, Clemson Black Alumni Council, The Clemson Corps, Clemson University Tiger Band Association, Young Alumni Council and the Women’s Alumni Council.

With no dues, the Alumni Association must rely entirely on private donations.

The Alumni Association receives little support from the state. While the University as a whole has seen state support slashed by an alarming $80.9 million in the last five years, the Alumni Association has seen its state-allocated budget disappear dramatically.
Since 2006, the Clemson Alumni Association has experienced an estimated 60% decrease in funding from the state of South Carolina, our traditional long-time and primary funding source.

And, by 2016 the Clemson Alumni Association expects to see total state funding for operations drop even further. By 2016, funding will most likely be reduced by nearly 80% from its 2006 level.

We need your support.

Will Clemson always be Clemson? All those who value their time in this special place want to ensure that the future Clemson is even stronger and better than the Clemson they remember.

But it takes funds to

- provide student scholarships,
- educate the current student body,
- administer programs,
- orchestrate homecoming events,
- support alumni groups,
- keep alumni informed and
- provide career, business and employment resources.

Every year a percentage of the Alumni Association’s support comes from an endowment established in 1989 and named to honor the man who was vital to the growth of the association and the University—Joe Sherman. But as the alumni base grows, the financial needs grow as well and the demands of serving a young, mobile, far-flung audience require additional resources.

Since the first alumni graduated in 1896, Tigers have stood united. And now it is time for Tiger alumni to support the preservation and extension of Clemson pride and tradition to future generations.

Go Tigers!

The Will to Lead for Clemson is a $1 billion capital campaign to support Clemson students and faculty with scholarships, professorships, facilities, technology and enhanced opportunities for learning and research. Through initiatives that drive innovation and build a knowledge-based economy, a Clemson education will propel the leaders of tomorrow.