Chris Miller serves as the vice president and dean of students for Clemson University Division of Student Affairs. Miller was appointed to the full-time position in April 2021 after serving in an interim capacity. Student Affairs has thrived with Miller’s leadership at Clemson. After guiding the division through an organizational realignment and modified operations due to a global pandemic, Clemson’s student experience has emerged stronger than ever.

Clemson has constructed first-class student facilities during his tenure. Samuel J. Cadden Chapel and the accompanying Johnson Family Student Memorial and Reflection Garden opened in the heart of main campus. The Snow Family Outdoor Fitness and Wellness Complex has become one of the nation’s premier lakefront recreational venues, highlighted by the recent additions of Davidson Family Field, Reed Family Field and Andy Quattlebaum Outdoor Education Center.

One of the hallmarks of Miller’s time has been transitioning students in and out of Clemson. Student Affairs has created a robust model for introducing students to campus life and preparing them for success through Orientation and Welcome Week programming. Michelin Career Center has earned multiple No. 1 national rankings in career services from The Princeton Review, reflecting an ongoing commitment to students’ professional preparation and life beyond Clemson.

Under Miller’s watch, Fraternity and Sorority Life has experienced record membership growth, academic and service achievement, significant decrease in conduct violations and introduced multiple anti-hazing programs. In addition, he helped transform the Office of Community and Ethical Standards by instituting new and improved processes for student adjudication.

Clemson has enhanced student well-being through the introduction of virtual health care, expansion of Counseling and Psychological Services and addition of Interpersonal Violence Response coordinators. Clemson also continues to garner acclaim for its support of underrepresented populations, including veterans and military-connected students as the No. 7 ranked Military Friendly® School for 2024-25 among Tier 1 research institutions.

Miller was instrumental in securing the first-ever Cornerstone Gift of $2.5 million in support of Student Affairs in FY24. Behind a record fundraising campaign — including the Miller Family Endowment for the Student Experience — he has raised the bar in securing private gifts for the enhancement of programs, services and facilities.

Miller first came to Clemson in 2015 as interim associate vice president and dean of students, ultimately earning the permanent appointment in that role as well. He joined Clemson’s staff after serving as vice president for Student Affairs from 2008-15 at Marquette University, a private institution in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. At Marquette, Miller was in charge of a $47 million Student Affairs budget and helped spearhead a number of key initiatives.

Miller worked at the University of Illinois at Springfield from 2002-2008. Following a year as an associate vice chancellor and dean of students, he was named vice chancellor within the Division of Student Affairs. His time at Springfield included supervision of more than 25 departments and areas. He spent time at Arizona State University and South Dakota State University from 1997-2002. In Tempe, Miller was an assistant dean within the Office of Student Life, serving a university population of over 60,000. In Sioux Falls, he was an associate dean and oversaw seven departments within the Division of Student Affairs.

Miller’s career in higher education began at The American Institute, a junior college in Phoenix, Ariz. He began as an assistant dean within the Legal Studies program and eventually worked his way into the institute’s chief executive officer position in 1995-1996.

Miller earned bachelor’s degrees in political science and history from the University of North Carolina. He earned master’s and doctorate degrees from Arizona State University. He also earned a juris doctorate from Campbell University. With an impressive educational pedigree, Miller has taken full advantage of it by serving as an adjunct professor. He has also belonged to and is currently serving on a number of professional and academic boards, committees and organizations.

Miller and his wife Julie have two sons, Ryan and Ethan, and a daughter Blayr.