



Greetings from Tiger Town!

Spring is starting to make an appearance after several days of rain. A slight breeze is carrying the fresh scent of colorful flowers across our beautiful campus. We all seem to have extra energy and focus to get physically active, take action and create change in our lives.



JoVanna J. King
Senior Associate Vice
President for Development

We demonstrate this renewed focus as we travel to towns throughout the country – Clemson Tigers will not be satisfied until we paint every city orange with our loyalty and dedication! Most recently, the Clemson family displayed our determined spirit in New York during the ACC Men’s Basketball Tournament, and now our Tigers are at the center of March Madness! They earned an at-large bid into the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2011. The Tigers are in San Diego and faced New Mexico State in the first round of the tournament. The Tigers have had an outstanding season, entering the tournament this week with a 23-9 record and 11 victories in the ACC – the most in Clemson history!! Congratulations, players and coaches. GO TIGERS!



Martin Lightsey had a preference for math and science, which caused his high school teachers to encourage him to pursue engineering. He found his niche at Clemson in industrial engineering. Because of the powerful way Clemson impacted Martin’s life, the Lightseys have established the **Martin and Linda Lightsey Engineering and Entrepreneurship Endowment**, which provides a scholarship to an engineering student who is also a member of Design and Entrepreneurship Network (DEN). Thank you, Linda and Martin, for your thoughtful generosity! You can read more about the Lightseys and their endowment [here](#).



A few weeks ago we had the opportunity to celebrate the generosity of the founding partners for the **James F. Barker and Marcia D. Barker Scholarship Endowment**. Jim Barker served as Clemson University’s 14th president for 14 years. Upon his retirement as president, an endowment was established in his honor to provide need-based scholarships for undergraduate students who need assistance to complete their degree. Having achieved his Clemson degree with the help of a need-based scholarship himself, an endowment named for Jim and Marcia was the most thoughtful way to show our appreciation for their extraordinary leadership and to continue their legacy of excellence. You can view photos [here](#) and watch a recap of the event [here](#).



Wilbur Owens “Billy” Powers, CEO of Powers Properties and Construction of Florence, was recently awarded a Marion Medallion by Francis Marion University and the *Morning News* in recognition of his tireless efforts in the Florence community. A selfless supporter of Clemson University for many years, Billy was presented with an honorary doctor of humanities degree in 2004 from Clemson University. He was also honored as a Distinguished Service Award recipient by the Clemson Alumni Association in 2011. Billy has served on the President’s Advisory Board, the Clemson University Foundation, and he is a lifelong member of IPTAY. Billy is a fascinating and amazing man. His philosophy is that we are all put on earth to help others as quietly and anonymously as possible. Thank you, Billy, for setting a tremendous example of kindness, philanthropy and modesty – you are a shining example to the entire Clemson family!



We had the pleasure of announcing the Sonoco FRESH (Food Research Excellence for Safety and Health) initiative that will develop new technologies and new forms of packaging to optimize the fresh food lifecycle. Sonoco, one of the largest global diversified packaging companies, will contribute \$1.725 million to establish the multi-disciplinary hub for innovation and research to advance fresh food packaging and distribution. They have also agreed to sponsor business-driven research projects totaling \$1 million. Sonoco FRESH is an extension of the one-of-a-kind partnership that created the Sonoco Institute of Packaging Design and Graphics at Clemson. Many thanks to Harris A. Smith of Atlanta for helping Clemson create the Sonoco Institute so partnerships like this could emerge and flourish. Click [here](#) to view photos from the event. You can read more about Sonoco FRESH [here](#).

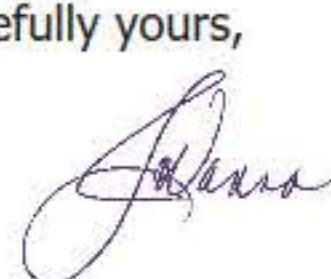


Your continued support is humbling and appreciated by those of us who call Clemson “home.” We are extremely grateful for everything you do for Clemson University. Please know that we are here to support you as well! We encourage you to visit our [website](#), call us at [864-656-0663](tel:864-656-0663) or write to us at giving@clemson.edu.

Tax season is upon us, and you can learn more about IRA rollover benefits [here](#). You may also download our free [Wills Guide](#), which has been designed to assist you throughout the gift and estate planning process.

I consider myself and our University immensely fortunate to have you as a member of the Clemson family. It is important to see first-hand the tremendous impact of your gifts and to interact with the students and faculty who greatly benefit from these special contributions.

I hope you are making plans to visit our beautiful campus soon. In the meantime, Happy St. Patrick’s Day and GO TIGERS!

Gratefully yours,




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