

Greetings from Campus!

We received great news this week: For the ninth straight year, Clemson was ranked among the country's Top 25 public higher education institutions! The University is named the 23rd best [national public university](#) by *U.S. News & World Report* in the publication's annual rankings released earlier this week.



JoVanna J. King
Senior Director
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"The latest *U.S. News* rankings confirm what so many of us associated with this outstanding university have known for years — Clemson offers one of the very finest educational experiences in the country," President James P. Clements said. "Our outstanding faculty and staff continue to provide life-changing educational opportunities for our students, and it is extremely gratifying to see their effort, along with the support of our incredible alumni base, continue to be recognized in this way." [Read more.](#)

Another way to measure greatness is through the commitment and dedication of our school's leadership, and that was demonstrated twice this week. President and Mrs. Clements and the Swinney family both made generous donations to University programs. The Clements family have been strong supporters of [ClemsonLIFE](#) and its students since they first arrived on campus. This week, the Clements gave \$100,000 in support of the [ClemsonLIFE grant-in-aid endowment](#), which is named in honor of their youngest daughter, Grace. The Grace Catherine Clements ClemsonLIFE Endowed Grant-in-Aid will provide financial assistance to students enrolled in the program.

Coach Dabo Swinney has always shared that winning on the football field is not his primary objective in life. Swinney and his delightful wife, Kathleen, have always used their public platform to improve and give back to the world around them. The Swinneys reaffirmed their commitment through a generous gift of \$1 million to the football program. The gift to IPTAY will be used to enhance the programmatic and building initiatives that will continue to propel the football program forward. [Read more](#) about the Swinney's history of giving back and the motivations behind their generous spirit. We are blessed to have the Swinney family and the Clements family, who are leading us by their generous example!

Another South Carolina family with an amazing spirit of giving is the Younts family from Fountain Inn, S.C. Melvin and Dollie Younts, huge Clemson Tiger fans and longtime philanthropists in our state, recently became the sixth family to be named a [Clemson Athletics Cornerstone Partner](#) through their gift to support student athletes and improvements of the athletic facilities. The recently renovated, 600-seat South Club area at Memorial Stadium has been named the Melvin and Dollie Younts South Club in appreciation of their \$2.5 million commitment. Thank you, Melvin and Dollie, for your generous gift to Clemson Athletics.

The board of trustees [leadership reception](#) was held last Friday and we recognized the outstanding leadership of our campaign volunteers who helped us surpass all expectations with our Will to Lead Campaign for Clemson. Board chair Smyth McKissick, the Will to Lead executive committee and many others were acknowledged for their extraordinary efforts. [View photos](#) and [video](#) from the event. On a personal note, I was surprised at the event with one of the greatest moments in my life when I was named an honorary alumnus of this amazing University! I am so proud to work at Clemson and now I can truly call myself an official Clemson Tiger! Thank you so much for this esteemed honor.

The first home football game of the year is always a very special time at Clemson. During the game, we took a moment to celebrate our own victory of the successful [Will to Lead](#) Campaign for Clemson. [Read more](#) about the history of the Campaign and the impact it will have on our University and our state. [View photos](#) of the halftime recognition and gameday activities from the President's Suite.

So many of these wonderful things were made possible by the generosity of people like you. We are extremely grateful for all the ways that you and your family have supported our beloved Clemson. Please let us know if we can ever be of assistance to you and your family. We invite you to visit our [website](#), call us at 864-656-0663 or write to us at giving@clemson.edu. The IRA rollover bill is now permanent and it may be a creative way for you to use these assets to make a gift to your favorite charity. [Read more here.](#) We also encourage you to download our free [wills guide](#), which has been designed to assist you throughout the planning process.

We look forward to seeing you on campus soon. GO TIGERS!

Gratefully yours,

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