Greetings from campus! February is a very special time of year for our Clemson Family. Recently, acceptance letters went out to many of those who applied for admission to Clemson, giving them the great news that they are Tiger Town Bound. The value of the Clemson degree continues to rise as does interest in attending our beloved University. This year we received over 1,000 more applications than last year, and 2/3 of accepted students are ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school class. We are extremely proud of the hard work of these newest Tigers and know they are in for a fulfilling college experience thanks to generous donors and friends like you.

At the Clemson Board of Trustees' Winter Quarterly meeting February 5th and 6th, members gave final and concept approval to a pair of athletics facilities projects. The renovation of Littlejohn Coliseum was given final approval by the board to begin construction, with a targeted start date, pending state agency approvals, of later this spring. The coliseum renovation includes reconstruction of the seating areas, along with construction of new practice facilities, locker room, meeting rooms and coaches' offices. Construction of a new football operations complex received initial concept approval and is targeted for a 2017 opening. Neither project will use university operating and facilities funds nor state funding, as both projects will be financed largely by private gifts. Further details and renderings of these projects will be made available as the construction and approval processes continue. Read more.

Earlier this month, President Jim Clements was the first to announce the good news that Clemson was ranked No. 1 for best alumni network among public and private colleges by The Princeton Review. Schools in this category are there based on empirical data, but primarily from student surveys about the activities and visibility of alumni and the percentage of alumni who recommend Clemson to prospective students. We are proud to have the most engaged alumni in the country who give their time to mentor students, participate in university events and give generously so the students of today and tomorrow have the opportunity to make a difference in our world. Read the full Clemson University release here and The Princeton Review release here.

In closing, we are very thankful for all you do to support the students and faculty at Clemson. To better our ranking as one of the nation's Top 20 public universities, we will need your continued generosity. We are here to help you with your financial and estate planning needs as we strive to provide a sustainable future for Clemson University. As always, please let me know if we can be of assistance to you and your family. Visit our website, call 864-656-6663 or email giving@clemson.edu for more information.

Many thanks and GO TIGERS!

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