Greetings from campus and Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and found time to refresh and reflect with those you love. Many of the Clemson Family had the opportunity to gather together to cheer on our Clemson Tigers as we pulled out a convincing 40 to 6 ground victory over the Oklahoma Sooners in the December 29th Russell Athletic Bowl in Orlando, Florida.

Activities are now back in full swing here on campus as students are immersed in their new classes for the semester and we prepare for our campus-wide Martin Luther King, Jr celebration week. Clemson continues to provide the annual opportunity for students to become part of a larger narrative of inclusion and community. Now, the celebration is organized by the MLK Enhancement Committee comprising representatives from across campus and funded by the President’s Office, Chief Diversity Office and Student Affairs. Forums, lectures and events such as the civil rights trip to Tuskegee University Jan. 16-18 and the Tunnel of Oppression on Jan. 22 are offered. Visit the official Clemson MLK Celebration site for all the details.

Since my last message to you, we were also honored to receive a grant from the Duke Energy Foundation for $115,000 to support the following programs: PEER (Programs for Educational Enrichment and Retention), WISE (Women in Science and Engineering), EMAGINE! and a teacher education course. We are so appreciative of the generous and longstanding support by Duke Energy as they continue to make a difference in the lives of students and faculty in the fields of engineering and science. View photos here from the recent check presentation.

Finally, we are so encouraged by the new leadership at Clemson and all of the strategic work in progress to build a strong plan for our future sustainability. Bob Jones, Clemson’s new executive vice president for academic affairs and provost has been instrumental in bringing together the Clemson Family in this effort to establish the goals and plan to move Clemson forward. Read this article to learn more about Dr. Jones and the Clemson 2020Forward Roadmap. Also, take a moment to read the background on the 2020Forward plan or to submit your feedback.

In closing, we are so appreciative of your commitment and support of Clemson students and faculty. With your support, Clemson has achieved a Top-20 ranking as one of the nation’s top public universities and we strive to maintain and better that position each and every day. As we look to protect the future health and stability of our beloved university, we are also here to assist in your personal estate planning needs. Please let me know at any time if I or my staff can be of help to you. Visit our website, call 864-656-2121 or email giving@clemson.edu for more information.

Gratefully yours,

JoVanna J. King
Senior Director
Principal Gifts & Gift and Estate Planning

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