

Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Chris Miller



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 following the retirement of Almeda Jacks.

“Dr. Miller has done an outstanding job leading the Division of Student Affairs as interim vice president,” Clemson University President Jim Clements said. “He is a tremendous advocate for our students and works tirelessly to support and enhance their experiences outside of the classroom. We are proud Dr. Miller continues to be part of the Clemson Family and look forward to the great work ahead from Student Affairs.”

Miller successfully guided Student Affairs through a transitional period in which several of its departments relocated within the institution to the Finance and Operations Division — creating a leaner, more student-focused organizational structure within Student Affairs. In the 2020-21 academic year, Miller and his staff rose to the challenge of providing support services in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite a shift from traditional campus operations and a significant impact to the Clemson experience beyond the classroom, Student Affairs has continued to deliver quality, efficient and relevant programs and services for students and families.

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, Wis., with a combined enrollment of over 15,000. At Marquette, Miller was in charge of a \$47 million Student Affairs budget and helped spearhead a number of initiatives for various areas, from administration to development to diversity.

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 took full advantage of it at previous stops, serving as an adjunct professor from 1989 to 2015. Miller 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.