

Associate Vice President and Chief of Staff for Student Affairs George Smith



George Smith is in his 31st year in 2018–19 as a Clemson University employee, all of which have been with the Division of Student Affairs. He currently serves as associate vice president and chief of staff and holds administrative responsibility for several areas within the division, including: operational oversight of the division's \$125 million business enterprise, strategic planning & assessment, and all communications and brand management functions. Smith is also heavily involved in development and donor relations initiatives for Student Affairs.

Smith assumed his current role soon after Almeda Jacks returned as vice president for Student Affairs in 2014. Prior to the reorganization, he had served as associate vice president for Student Affairs since 2007, where he had administrative responsibility for several areas: Campus Activities & Events, Campus Recreation, Fraternity & Sorority Life, Gantt Center for Student Life, Parking & Transportation Services and Student Affairs Publications. In this role, he led successful initiatives to improve and expand student activity and recreational facilities and related programs

and services within his areas of responsibility.

From 2013 to 2015, he was the primary advisor to Undergraduate Student Government. In 2014, he was awarded the Order of the Tiger, Undergraduate Student Government's highest honor given to individuals who have made significant contributions to support student life and success on campus.

Smith was director of the University Union and Student Center from 1993–2007, where he was responsible for all major campus events and concerts, student organization advising and facility management for all student activity venues on campus. He played a key role in the development of the Hendrix Student Center, which opened in March 2000. During this time, Smith and his team developed a highly successful student engagement model for the operation and management of Littlejohn Coliseum.

Clemson has been an instrumental part of Smith's life and career. He earned a bachelor's degree in financial management in 1982, a master's degree in education in 1991, and a Ph.D. in parks, recreation & tourism management in 2004. He has an adjunct faculty appointment within the College of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences and has taught graduate courses on event management in this capacity.

Smith and his wife Linda have two daughters, Mary Frances and Courtney, and a son-in-law Jim Roberts.