

### Hope your 2019 is off to a fantastic start!

As I basked in the Clemson spirit in Santa Clara witnessing our Clemson Tigers win the national championship, I heard Coach Swinney say in his interview, "We were not chasing the national championship, we were focused on being the best we could be every day." Chasing excellence yielded perfection for Clemson Football this year.

As we relentlessly pursue excellence in science, we may not have national championships, but we will have a tremendous positive impact as we tackle tomorrow's greatest scientific challenges and prepare the next generation of scientists.

Thank you for being such a big part of the education, research and experience that happens across our University every day. Thank you for giving back with your time, energy and resources. In the fall, some of you supported scholarships and fellowships, invested in your own discipline and major, and some gave to Clemson and Science for the first time. THANK YOU for your kindness and generosity.

Your support helps build world-class facilities and recruit extraordinary faculty on the cutting edge of tomorrow's discoveries. Your gifts elevate the student experience with high-impact research and global experiences. Your generosity allows future and current Tigers the opportunity to have that very special Clemson experience: as doctoral students, undergraduate students, or grade school children who are inspired by our passion for science.

As we look back at 2018 – What a Year! – I am reminded of that image of Coach Swinney and our student athletes locked arm-in-arm as they took the field. Join us academically, arm-in-arm, as we collectively focus on advancing SCIENCE.

Go Tigers!

**CYNTHIA Y. YOUNG** 

FOUNDING DEAN, COLLEGE OF SCIENCE







After the rousing victory, Clemson quarterback Trevor Lawrence holds the national championship trophy alongside teammates and coach Dabo Swinney (far right). Image credit: Clemson University

## Perfect in every way

En route to their second national championship in three years, the Clemson Tigers became the first team in the modern era to go 15-0, annointing the 2018-2019 squad as the "greatest college football team of all time." The Tigers crushed the vaunted Alabama Crimson Tide 44-16 on Jan. 7 in Santa Clara, California. True-freshman quarterback Trevor Lawrence led the charge, playing with a calm and maturity well beyond his years. The following Saturday, tens of thousands attended a championship parade and celebration in downtown Clemson and at the stadium. The College of Science joins the Clemson University family in congratulating coach Dabo Swinney and his ultra-talented team of coaches and players. Up next: three out of four?

- **→** PERFECT SEASON
- **→ CHAMPIONSHIP PARADE**



Honor stoles are a beautifully designed and well-deserved recognition of the hard work put in by students who have excelled in the classroom. Image courtesy of Caitlin Hanley

# As today's student leaders, Clemson's ODK members are forging the future in a variety of ways

The Clemson Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK), which includes 30 members from the College of Science, sells and distributes about 2,000 honor stoles each academic year. The profits benefit the campus and external organizations in extraordinary ways.

#### **⇒** READ MORE



The Mojave rattlesnakes that live in the deserts of the southwestern U.S. and central Mexico are packed with lethal venom, though they rarely strike unless provoked. Image courtesy of Travis Fisher

## Clemson researchers work with citizen-scientists to better understand diversity of rattlesnake venom

The discovery that Mojave Rattlesnakes have multiple venom types that are more widespread than previously believed required a large research collaboration between principal investigators, students and almost 100 citizen-scientists in five laboratories across the United States and Mexico. The research was published in <u>Scientific Reports</u>.

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