



Dear participants and visitors:

On behalf of Clemson University, welcome to this year's MBE Summit!

I am proud of Clemson's role in sponsoring and hosting the Carolinas-Virginia Minority Supplier Development Council for its 11th annual summit. Thank you for choosing to spend a few days with us to advance the very important work of the CVMSDC and its partners.

Clemson strives to be a national leader for inclusive excellence, and we are excited to have this opportunity to strengthen our relationship with the Council.

CVMSDC's efforts to create professional opportunities and add economic value are closely aligned with Clemson's focus on providing the type of relevant education that helps produce the talent needed for our state, regional, national and global economy.

Together we are addressing problems with solutions that promote personal and business growth, and events such as this will benefit not only your members but your communities as you take what you learn back to strengthen your businesses.

I hope you enjoy your time at Clemson and that you have a productive and memorable summit.

Go Tigers!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James P. Clements". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James P. Clements, Ph.D.
President



Welcome to the Carolinas-Virginia Minority Supplier Development Council's 2017 MBE Summit! We are pleased to partner with Clemson University in making this a highly successful event. We have a powerful and impactful program that will deliver on our mission and improve the path to wealth creation.

Recognizing the need to increase efforts that create economic inclusion, we are focusing on financial acumen and business growth. Organic growth can be enhanced through methods that complement and accelerate gaining capacity. Sustainable revenue is supported by sound financial principles. We want to share frameworks and systems essential to mastering the art of providing valuable business solutions.

Our time together will work to equip MBEs with stronger capability to meet the demands of an ever-changing business environment today.

We hope you enjoy the day!

Eric Watson
President and CEO, CVMSDC