

DBU REPORT

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JOHN CLEM

DBU Servant Leader for 25 Years

DBU Director of Development John Clem along with his wife, Carole, in front of the John G. Mahler Student Center.

JOHN CLEM:

helping to build DBU for 25 Years



John Clem along with his wife, Carole, daughter, Cheryl Wadley, and sister, Barbara Fincher, at the special 25th anniversary reception.

Only a handful of people in DBU's history have worked on a daily basis for more than a quarter of a century ensuring DBU's future. One of those long-committed individuals is John Clem, DBU's accomplished director of development. Mr. Clem recently commemorated his 25th anniversary on the DBU campus in a special ceremony attended by colleagues, family, and friends.

"John Clem is one of the finest human beings I have ever met. He is of the highest integrity and character, and it has been one of the great privileges of my tenure at DBU to have the opportunity to work with John and to be his friend," said DBU President Dr. Gary Cook.

"God certainly sent John Clem to DBU," he continued, "and we are just thrilled that he is still here serving, even when he has reached what many people would consider to be retirement age."

"It is indeed gratifying to look back over 25 years and to see that God's hand has been on DBU, and He has guided us through some very difficult challenges," said Clem. "It is a joy to be a part of an institution that constantly seeks God's will. Especially since Dr. Gary Cook's arrival in 1988, I have been amazed at DBU's wonderful progress and growth."

"I am so grateful for the encouragement of my wife, Carole, and the support of my family—my daughter, Cheryl, her husband, David, and their three sons, Ben, Mason, and Davis, and my son, Johnny, and his wife, Cheryl, and their three children, Jimmy, Dana, and Rachel."

Dr. Cook also praised Clem's wife, Carole, who has served as a member of the DBU Women's Auxiliary Board and the Legacy Society. "Carole has been such a wonderful support to John," he said.

In his role as director of development, Clem has been responsible for the fundraising, capital campaigns, and building relationships with donors who have made DBU's growth possible.

Clem is in the process of planning the 20th annual Russell H. Perry Award Dinner, which he helped to establish with Forrest Smith and Dr. Cook two decades ago. The gala event has raised more than \$2.6 million and has provided scholarships for 1,100 DBU students. Clem has worked to organize each year's event and has made it a premier occasion in the city of Dallas.

In addition, Clem has also served in a variety of other roles throughout his career. He helped to establish the DBU-Oak Cliff Good Samaritan Award Dinner in 1988 and continues to coordinate the annual event.

He helped to establish the Annual Memorial Day program, which has grown into a campus tradition. Clem, who has been responsible for working with veterans, also supported community efforts to build the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery at its current location adjacent to DBU.

Finally, his legacy of being willing to take on any task lives on in two campus buildings whose construction he oversaw: the John G. Mahler Student Center, a cornerstone of DBU's colonial-style architecture, and the Collins Learning Center's third-floor facilities.

In honor of John Clem's 25 years of service, DBU has established the John Clem Endowed Scholarship Fund. If you would like to contribute to this special fund, please contact Bill Rogers at (214) 333-5179.