

Dear Name,

What an exciting time of year it is when the summer months come to a close and our students once again prepare to return to Clarkson's beautiful campus. Traveling back from all over the country and globe with renewed aspirations, excitement, and hope for the upcoming school year, our students will return determined to leave their mark on the University and further explore their passions as they reunite with friends and settle into their dorms.

For some students, this year will mark the beginning of an era as they say goodbye to their parents down at the Quad and turn to rejoin their brand new roommate, signaling the official start of their freshman year as a Golden Knight. Conversely, this year will also mark the end of an era for many students as they look to complete their degree and graduate Clarkson adorned with numerous accomplishments and life-long friendships. I can personally remember growing and changing with each new year that passed during my Clarkson experience. I especially remember the cherished memories I created during my time at such a prestigious and unique University.

Reflecting back on my Clarkson experience, I can firmly say that without the love and generosity from parents, friends, and alumni, my time at Clarkson wouldn't have been as remarkable as it was. I felt the strength and love of the Clarkson community the moment I became a freshman at Clarkson as our distinguished community welcomed me, encouraged me, and advanced me as I followed my passion throughout my college years. I believe this firm foundation will serve me well in all of my professional career endeavors. It is abundantly clear to me that the Clarkson community has shaped every aspect of my Clarkson experience. It is their support that I'm most thankful for as it made my Clarkson dream a possibility.

By your donation to The Clarkson Fund, you are continually ensuring that all deserving students have a chance to pursue their passion in their individual field of study at Clarkson based on their character and academic ability, instead of simply on their parent's income. The financial aid support the University receives from its parents, friends, and alumni is critical to the success of Clarkson's mission as it allows us to continue our legacy of life-long friendships, academic excellence, and Golden Knight pride. When you decide to help fund a young person's dream today, you will help Clarkson University remain a place of personal and academic excellence, built on dedication and generosity, where the strength of the community is nurtured every day.

I hope that this year you will consider donating to The Clarkson Fund. With your support, we can ensure Clarkson's excellence and generosity. Your gift, regardless of size, will help ensure that our beloved University continues to provide an exceptional education to the next generation of deserving students regardless of their financial situation. You have the power to positively impact the lives of many current and future students. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this appeal.

In the Clarkson Spirit,

Nichole Thomas '04, '05  
Director, The Clarkson Fund