

**Emeritus College's Community Service Award  
Presented October 1, 2019 at the Fall Picnic and Annual Meeting  
Calvin L. Schoulties, Chair of the Awards Committee**

Good evening fellow Emeritus faculty and guests at this fall gathering of our College.

I am honored to present the first ever Community Service Award of Clemson's Emeritus College. Thank you to those of you who nominated Emeritus Faculty for the Award. Our task was made difficult to select an Award recipient among 7 nominees.

The recipient of the Community service Award grew-up in Wilmington, Delaware. According to her nominee, "her dad worked for DuPont at the Research Station and was an influence on her college academic choices." When the time for College arrived, she ventured off to Pennsylvania to attend Bucknell University where she received her BS in Chemistry in 1964. She then was accepted into the biochemistry graduate program at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana and met her husband to be at a "new graduate student" reception held at her dorm. Linda Gahan obtained her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Illinois in 1968.

Linda, please come forward to the front of the podium. I will then relate to all gathered before you about your exceptional community service as well as your career at Clemson.

Dr. Linda Gahan and her husband, Dr. Lawrence Gahan, came to Clemson in August of 1968. Linda, who was five months pregnant with their first child at the time, immediately became involved in community activities such as the Clemson League of Women Voters. Later on, Linda voluntarily taught two chemistry courses at Daniel High School while the regular teacher was on medical leave. She eventually joined

the faculty in biological sciences at Clemson University, obtained tenure in due time, had a very productive career and retired from the Department of Biological Sciences in 2008.

For the past several years, Linda has been involved with Concerned Citizens for Animals. Because some of our students unfortunately “dump” their animals when they depart at the end of the spring semester, there are a number of abandoned cats throughout the Clemson community. Linda feeds 13 cats seven days a week between 6:30 and 7:30 am as well as monitors their health and behavior around the area of the former Clemson House along Daniel Drive and Martin Street.

On the human side of life, she is a supporter and benefactor for Clemson Community Care and the Clemson Child Development Center. She is the past president of the Clemson League of Women Voters and has served in the presidential capacity 4 times. Not only has she served as an officer but also her nominator lists 8 service activities within the League including three international women’s workshops and training programs in Kenya. Telescopically summarizing *some* of her other community service: Secretary, Clemson-Central Advisory Board, 2010-12; Past moderator at Fort Hill Presbyterian Women, 2011 -12, 2017-19; Co-Coordinator of Family Promise at Fort Hill Presbyterian Church, 2014-20; Chaired a fundraiser for the local P.E.O. Sisterhood Chapter for women’s college scholarships.

In 2012, Linda received the Clemson Rotary Club Community Service Award. Now, in 2019 here tonight, please join me in congratulating Dr. Linda Gahan for her remarkable life of service as a recipient of the Emeritus College’s 2019 Community Service Award.