

Holly Clendenen Biography

Holly Clendenen is a strategic higher education leader with two decades of experience across student services, institutional advancement, and organizational change. She currently serves as Chief Student Services Officer at Southwest Wisconsin Technical College, providing executive leadership for a comprehensive student services division that supports student access, success, and completion. In summer 2024, Clendenen served as the college's Acting President, leading institutional operations and advancing organizational priorities.

As a member of the college's executive team and cabinet, Clendenen plays a central role in strategic planning, change management, and institutional vitality. She completed the Aspen Institute's Rising Presidents Fellowship in 2024 and currently serves as project lead for the college's work to improve post-graduation outcomes, positioning Southwest Tech among national leaders in student success.

Previously, Clendenen served as Executive Director of College Advancement and the Southwest Tech Foundation and Real Estate Foundation. In this role, she led comprehensive fundraising efforts, scholarship expansion, and student housing development. Her work strengthened community and industry partnerships, enhanced board engagement, and contributed to resource development. Earlier in her career at the University of Wisconsin–Platteville, she supported annual and major giving, comprehensive campaign planning, and corporate relations.

Clendenen holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Wisconsin–Platteville and a Master of Arts in Organizational Management from Ashford University. She is currently a doctoral candidate in Organizational Leadership with a specialization in Higher Education Leadership at Franklin University. A southwest Wisconsin native, she lives near Kieler with her husband, Matt, and their three children.