

**Biography of**

**Ronald A. Johnson, Ph.D.**

Ronald A. Johnson, Ph.D., is a visionary strategic leader and transformative change agent. He is the fourth and former President of Clark Atlanta University, a private, historically black university in Atlanta, Georgia. The University is affiliated with the United Methodist Church and is the largest of the 37 member United Negro College Fund (UNCF) institutions. He is the author of the essay, *HBCUs as Pipelines for Diversified Intellect, Creativity and Innovation, Investing in America’s Workforce*, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (November 2018).

Prior to joining Clark Atlanta University, Dr. Johnson was the dean of the Jesse H. Jones School of Business at Texas Southern University. He also served as dean of the College of Business at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina. He previously taught and developed innovative curriculum at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida; Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts; and Howard University in Washington, D.C., as well as Texas Southern University. He is an accomplished researcher and has developed expertise in the design of learning focused business curriculums. He has co-authored peer reviewed journal articles, including *Integrated System Oriented Student-centric Learning Environment: A Framework for Undergraduate Curriculum* in the Campus-Wide Information Systems Journal (January 2014)*.*

Dr. Johnson’s leadership is fortified by his executive experience in the world of investment management. He is the former president and chief investment officer at Smith Graham & Company, where he led a team of traders and investment professionals in raising and managing more than $2 billion in fixed income portfolios for institutional investors. He served as director of fixed income research and senior portfolio manager for Templeton Worldwide Inc., where he raised and managed nearly $3 billion in global fixed income assets. He served as chief strategist and chairman of the investment committee for Americas Trust Bank, a Latin American investment bank. He also has held positions with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the International Monetary Fund, and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Dr. Johnson is an active board member on several civic and educational organizations, including: US Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Consumer Advisory Board Chair), White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, President’s Board of Advisors (member), Investment Committee, General Board of Higher Education Ministry, United Methodist Church (member), Leadership Atlanta (member), Host Committee for the 2020 World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates (member)**,** Super Bowl LIII Host Committee (advisory committee member), and Kappa, the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity member Boulé in Atlanta. He is the former member of the Georgia Research Alliance, the Atlanta Committee for Progress, the Atlanta Regional Council for Higher Education, the Joseph and Evelyn Lowery Institute for Justice and Human Rights, the UNCF Investment Committee, the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, and the former Rhetoricos officer of the Fraternity’s Gamma Upsilon member Boulé in Asheville, N. C.

Dr. Johnson holds the Ph.D. and M.A. degrees in economics from Stanford University, and an MBA in finance and the B.A. degree in economics from Adelphi University in New York. He is married to Irene Oakley Johnson and has one son, Brandon.

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