

Biography – Clare Thompson

Clare Thompson, CFRE, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement

Clare Thompson, CFRE, was named Palmer's vice chancellor for institutional advancement in January 2026. She's responsible for providing leadership in the strategic planning and execution of College programs and initiatives related to alumni relations, alumni engagement, and fundraising. She previously served as the executive director of advancement at the College, but most recently served as vice president for advancement, alumni relations, and athletics at Western Illinois University. Thompson brings 20+ years of experience in fundraising and alumni relations, including previous work in higher education at St. Ambrose University, Edgewood College, and Georgetown College. She holds a Master of Science degree in Sports Administration from Indiana State University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Marycrest College, Davenport, Iowa.