

Biography of Daniel J. Ennis

Daniel J. Ennis began serving as President of Delta State University on June 1, 2023.

Ennis graduated from Summerville High School in Summerville, SC in 1988. He attended the college of Charleston and earned his B.A. degree in 1992, and attended Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, from which he received his M.A. in 1994. Ennis attended Auburn University and completed his Ph.D. in English at that institution in 1999, having held a Presidential Graduate Fellowship and received the Calvert Award from The Association of College English Teachers of Alabama.

In 1999, Ennis was appointed Assistant Professor of English at Coastal Carolina University on Conway, SC. During his 24-year career at that institution, he served as Co-Director of the University Honors Program, Department Chair, Dean, and Vice President from Academic Outreach. His final appointment at Coastal was as Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, overseeing the operations of seven academic colleges, enrollment services, and the curriculum development for over 10,000 students.

As a professor, Ennis is a teacher and scholar of British Literature, having published or edited four books and many articles on the authors of the Enlightenment. He has developed expertise on African literature, serving as a Fulbright-Hayes Scholar in Morocco and Tunisia in 2011, and having presented papers and published on twentieth century sub-Saharan writers.

Ennis is married. He and his wife Jennifer have two daughters.