

## About President Dr. Ron K. Patterson

Dr. Ron K. Patterson, currently the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion & Director of Presidential Mentors Academy at the University of North Alabama, will become the president of Chadron State College on July 1, 2023. In his current role, he assists the President with university functions, serves as the community DEI Liaison, and has responsibility for budget oversight and strategic planning. Patterson's current projects include, but are not limited to, the development and implementation of a five-year strategic diversity and inclusion plan, development of a diversity course in the general education curriculum cross-listed across two departments, and student success and retention. He is also leading fundraising efforts that provide support for the division, students, faculty, and staff.

Prior to joining the University of North Alabama, Patterson served for 14 years as an administrator at Marietta College in Ohio, University of Central Arkansas, and University of Tennessee Health Science Center and Christian Brothers University in Memphis. He also spent four years as an assistant men's basketball coach and head men's golf coach at Tusculum College in Greeneville, Tennessee, and Marietta College. His six-year administrative progression at the University of North Alabama included service as associate vice president for enrollment management, chief enrollment officer, and chief enrollment officer and special assistant to the president for diversity and inclusion with responsibility for both enrollment management, academic programs, and diversity and inclusion.

Patterson is a visionary, scholar-practitioner and possesses a wealth of experience in diversity, equity, and inclusion, enrollment management, program and course development, student, faculty, staff development, strategic planning, assessment, and accreditation. An interdisciplinary leader by training, his research focuses on continuous improvement in higher education. Patterson's commitment as a servant leader takes many forms. He has traveled extensively to foster positive relationships between institutions. He has collaborated with governmental agencies in such countries as The Peoples Republic of China and Democratic Republic of the Congo to enroll students. At the local and regional level, he often volunteers at community-related functions and speaks frequently to civic groups, professional associations, and community agencies and organizations. Patterson was appointed to serve on the Executive Board of Directors for Shoals Scholar Dollars program, Shoals Chamber of Commerce Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, and Shoals Chamber of Commerce Minority Business Council.

Patterson earned a doctorate of education in Higher Education Administration and Leadership at Creighton University, an Education Specialist degree with a concentration in Community College Administration at Arkansas State University, a master of arts at Marietta College, a bachelor of science at the University of Tennessee – Southern, and associate of arts at Northeast Mississippi Community College. He recently completed professional development offered by American Academic Leadership Institute and Penn State University's Academic Leadership Academy for Academic Administration.

Patterson and his wife, Jenny, have two children. Olivia will graduate from high school this spring and signed a letter of intent to play women's soccer at the University of North Alabama. Braylon is a seventh grader and will join his parents in Chadron this summer.

[Application materials are linked here.](#)

([https://www.nscs.edu/\\_resources/e30d:rs75x4-24t/files/77068319z9a5198e9/\\_fn/Patterson-application-materials.pdf](https://www.nscs.edu/_resources/e30d:rs75x4-24t/files/77068319z9a5198e9/_fn/Patterson-application-materials.pdf))