To advance the cause of civil rights in the United States of America, Rev. Samuel Rodriguez, president of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference (NHCLC), announced today the significant appointment to the NHCLC board of **Dr. Bernice A. King**, the youngest child of human rights leaders Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King, and the CEO of The King Center.  

"Racial tension and conflict have been evident in each generation and many leaders have made great strides toward resolving this strife. We hope this appointment will continue to advance the work of leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,” said Rev. Rodriguez. “It is time for a Christian civil rights movement in America that will protect life and religious liberty and bring the races together around the person, distribution, reparation and saving grace of our Lord and Savor Jesus Christ.”

Dr. Bernice A. King and the NHCLC have worked together passionately on issues of social justice and human rights.

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**Alexis Patterson, PhD** joined the UC Davis School of Education recently as an Assistant Professor or Elementary Science Education.  

Dr. Patterson earned her undergraduate degree from UC Berkeley, her Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential from CSU East Bay, and her master’s degree from Stanford University. She returned to Stanford to earn her doctorate in Curriculum Studies and Teacher Education in Science from Stanford’s Graduate School of Education.

Dr. Patterson worked in the Oakland Unified School District as an assistant director of an after-school program, as a middle school science teacher, and as an intervention instructor at an elementary school. Her interests are in science education, urban education, small group work, and social-emotional intelligence.

“The School of Education’s emphasis on diverse learners is so important to me,” said Dr. Patterson. “That’s the heart and crux of my research—better understanding of diverse learners and increasing the pathways for them to science fields.”