



Leaders Engaged in Affirming Diversity

*Office of Institutional Diversity*

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

## **LEAD FELLOWS 2023-2024**

### **Mohammed Al Eethawi**

Mohammed Al Eethawi is a third-year student at the University of Georgia majoring in Biology and Biomedical Physiology. Mohammed prefers using the pronouns he/him/his. The LEAD fellowship attracted his interest because he envisions himself making an impact through this program, by spreading diversity at UGA and creating a unique environment where every student feels comfortable and welcomed.

### **Mikayla Frierson**

Mikayla Frierson (she/her) is majoring in biological sciences on the pre-pa track. She believes diversity leadership is important for any career path because it encourages the sharing of diverse perspectives, which is essential for collaboration and effective decision-making. Diversity leadership is also vital for dismantling barriers and biases that may inadvertently exist within an organization or workplace. Being that Mikayla is interested in the healthcare field, she believes learning more about diversity leadership will benefit her in various ways and equip her with the necessary tools needed to advocate for change.

### **Keenan Kharrat**

Keenan Kharrat (he/him) is a second-year civil engineering major. Growing up in a rural community, Keenan saw firsthand what people could accomplish amongst themselves when simply communicating and working together, regardless of and often aided by their unique identities. This led him to have a large appreciation for intersectionality and diversity, and he hopes to work towards those ideals in the future.



### **Giana Mainer-Smith**

Giana Mainer-Smith (she/her) is a psychology major on the pre-nursing track. She graduated from a small high school that only had a handful of students that looked like her. With that said, it is extremely important to Giana that she does everything in her capacity to make sure everyone feels welcomed and comfortable in their school environment. Giana feels that the LEAD Fellowship program will do exactly that, and she cannot wait to work alongside her cohort!

### **Alexis Perry**

Alexis Perry (she/her/hers) is majoring in Biomedical Physiology and Psychology with Area of Emphasis in Neuroscience. As she gets higher in education, and approaches entering the workforce, she placed in more leadership positions in which she had interacted with many diverse people with identities and cultures different than her own. Alexis applied for this fellowship to ensure that she is a capable and effective leader, even when it comes to leading those who are different from her.

### **Ashley Potts**

Ashley Potts is a third-year Management Information Systems major from Americus, GA. Her pronouns are she/hers. Ashley's passion for diversity leadership stems from a desire to create more welcoming spaces on campus that empower all students to reach their full potential. She hopes to take the leadership skills she will develop during this fellowship and apply the same principles to everyday spaces both on campus and off. As a first-gen African American student, Ashley feels that it is important for students from varying backgrounds to be able to learn how to network and thrive in diverse environments.