LEAD FELLOWS 2022-2023

Samuel Brewster
Samuel Peter Brewster is a third year Computer Systems Engineering major. When he is not in Athens, Samuel works at a local coffee shop back home in Columbus. He can whip up one of the best coffees you've ever had! He is also the world's biggest dog person. In Athens, he is a part of the Army ROTC program at UGA and plans to commission into the military upon graduation. He is new to DEI work but is very excited to start. As a child who moved every 1-3 years of his life, Samuel is very sociable and makes friends quickly. This coincides with his passion for creating welcoming environments where people can be themselves and find a place to call home.

Sebastian Herrera
Sebastian Herrera is an MIS major from Habersham County, Georgia. He has spent most of his life around people from varying racial, ethnic, and social backgrounds. His interest and passion for DEI work comes from a multitude of personal experiences since moving to the United States. Most recently, his motivators have been his stepbrothers and stepcousins who he sees being forced to assimilate to American societal norms in their Elementary school. In the last 6 months, he has secured a position in the Terry Diversity Fellows, and as a political organizer for Students for Justice. His goal for this upcoming year is to start a support group for Latine students who are in or interested in Greek Life. Sebastian hopes to find a career where he can mix his love for data analytics and his passion to help those in his community.

Kafi Hamler
Kafi Hamler is a third year Genetics major. She was born and raised in Ellenwood, GA. Ellenwood is in metro-Atlanta, so she used to be about 20 minutes away from the city before traffic became horrific. Kafi has been a member of the Genetics DEI committee since the second semester of her freshman year. She is very interested in DEI because, as a first-generation African-American student, she thinks it is important for all students like herself to be able to network and thrive in environments that may not resemble the ones one grew up in. Kafi loves to cook, eat, watch movies, and talk about trivia. She is looking forward to meeting everyone in the LEAD team.
Valery Huaman-Lozano
Valery Huaman is a second-year majoring in Real Estate. She lives in Lawrenceville, GA. Valery has experience tutoring people from different backgrounds and age groups. When her family began to adapt to the US culture, it became Valery’s responsibility to help them understand the unfamiliar. Her family was able to educate her about Peruvian culture, while she helped them learn about the American culture. Through these experiences, she began to understand the importance of inclusion, which sparked her interest in DEI work. Valery enjoys playing volleyball and traveling to other countries.

Tatmeen Khimani
Tatmeen Khimani is currently a Management Information System Major and a Health Policy and Management Minor from Peachtree City Georgia. Her family is from Karachi, Pakistan. A big part of Tatmeen’s identity comes from her religion, which is being an Ismaili Shia Muslim. Growing up as a minority in her religion and ethnicity peaked her interest in teaching others about where she came from and who she is. Tatmeen is involved in non-profit and volunteer work from her religious community through Refugee centers and other organizations. Within her religious community there is an organization called Ismaili Civic whose initiative is to introduce the Ismaili community to other faiths and cultures through a means of community service. With all of these combined, Tatmeen wishes to continue to work on her passion for working in a diverse and pluralistic environment.

Katie Kim
Katie is from the diverse city of Duluth, Georgia and has lived there for most of her life! She is an Elementary Education major and is passionate about educating the youth about our world today. Katie enjoys listening to music, hanging out at cafes, and going on drives in her free time. During her time at UGA, she hopes to help students feel included and welcomed here on campus!
Romee Maitra

Medha (Romee) Maitra is in her sophomore year at the University of Georgia, majoring in Sociology, Genetics, and Art. Her passion lies in using research-based methods to break the barriers of socially imposed division present in the U.S. healthcare system. Currently, she is involved in lifelong education, administration, and policy research under Dr. Richard Blissett that analyzes attitudes towards critical race theory and how it is defined. In the past, she performed thorough analyses of media pieces pertaining to affirmative action (A.A.) in order to uncover how attitudes towards A.A. can influence it’s framing in media, in turn effecting the opinions of U.S. citizens. She also authored and proposed a DEI initiative that would help close socially imposed barriers through education. Medha hopes to use her experience in research and in DEI to implement race-based equity initiatives at UGA and advocate for the betterment of the minority experience on campus.