

February 2023



## **ABEEHA** 2020 RIT Virtual Apprenticeship

2022 Virtual Apprentice at the University  
of Houston Gene Sequencing Core

## WHAT IS YOUR PASSION OR HOBBY OUTSIDE OF STEM?

I love learning new languages and traveling  
to new places!

## WHAT WERE SOME OF THE BEST THINGS ABOUT THE PROGRAM YOU PARTICIPATED IN?

AEOP provided me with valuable exposure to real-world lab experience that was nearly impossible for me to attain elsewhere as a young first-generation minority woman in the south. AEOP provided me with opportunities incomparable to anything else and allowed me to gain lab experience and build relationships with experts in STEM fields while attaining valuable one-on-one feedback and insights that continue to guide me today as I navigate my way through college. Through these opportunities, AEOP helped me reignite my passion for what I hope to do and why I hope to do it, and it is one of the biggest reasons I chose to pursue Biomedical Engineering today.

## HOW HAS PARTICIPATING IN AEOP INSPIRED YOU TO ADVANCE IN STEM

In my first year with AEOP, I was exposed to the intersection between the national government and STEM after connecting with a diverse array of professionals across the nation dedicated to highlighting the challenges in STEM in today's world. Although my first experience with AEOP opened my eyes to the world of STEM, allowing me to embark on my own journey, my later experiences encouraged me to solidify my goals and ambitions.

## WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE STEM ROLE MODEL? WHY?

Dr. Michelle Au: an anesthesiologist and Georgia State Senator for Senate District 48. I aspire to merge my passions as seamlessly as she does.