

# National Security Innovation Student Teams

## The Future of the Defense Workforce Challenge

Team Leader: Lance Hartley, lhartley@nd.edu

Teaching Team Advisor: Regan Jones, reganjones@nd.edu



**Desmond Atem** is completing a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree with a Family Nurse Practitioner track at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana. Born and raised in Cameroon, Africa, he learned hard work and determination from an early age. Desmond is an eager learner with creative curiosity and attention to detail. As a civically engaged student, he served in Student Government as a Senator and led the Student Nurse's Association as President. He currently serves as a Liaison at the Graduate Nursing Student Academy and a member of the grassroots and legislative committee in the Coalition of Advanced Practice Nurses of Indiana. Desmond's commitment to community service and civic leadership earned him the Newman Civic Engagement Fellow Award. As a Registered Nurse, he fosters excellence and quality improvement in his current clinical practice, which earned him a selection for the highly competitive Indiana Rural Health Association Fellowship Program. Desmond is passionate about global health security and looks forward to collaborating with stakeholders to innovate and strengthen the United States' national security and that of its allies. Desmond is a Liverpool Football Club supporter and enjoys watching the English Premier League soccer games outside of work and school.



**Lance Hartley** was born in a small town in rural South Carolina. Through NJROTC, he had an opportunity to go to college. He is a first generation college student. Lance is now a third year student at the University of Notre Dame. He is also in the NROTC program at Notre Dame as a Marine Option. Lance holds several leadership billets including: the Unit leader for the Notre Dame Traveling Drill Team and Platoon Commander. Lance is a Visual Communication Design Major with an interest in app development and anything technology. Lance enjoys camping, weightlifting, and fishing. Upon graduation, Lance will commission as a 2nd LT in the United States Marine Corps. From there, he will go to The Basic School and choose his job within the Marine Corps. He hopes to become an Infantry Officer one day.

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**Nyla White** is a first generation student who identifies as a part of the disabled community. Her passions center around improving systems within the United States to improve issues such as mass incarceration, healthcare affordability, systemic racism, and the density of wealth. She is a Political Science and Sociology major pursuing minors in Journalism and Data Science. In the fall of 2022 she will be in Washington, D.C. interning and taking classes with the University of Notre Dame. Nyla is a scholar in the Balfour Hesburgh program, a full tuition Lily Endowment Scholar, a member of Notre Dame's national-qualifying Mock Trial team, and participates in student government.



**Faith Schafer** is a sophomore science-business major at the University of Notre Dame with a minor in theology. Originally from Williamston, Michigan, she now lives in McGlinn Hall on campus, where she enjoys playing interhall sports and running the dorm snack shack. She also assists with public health marketing research on campus and enjoys long walks around the lakes while feeding the ducks and squirrels. Faith's primary role in the National Security and Innovation course is to learn and understand the resilience and evolution of national security within our country and offer thoughtful insights on problems and potential solutions.