Blanka Caha is known professionally as the Business Accountant Specialist for the Student Government Association (SGA). But to the students who work with her, Blanka is known as the person who supports, teaches, loves, and nurtures them to become strong student leaders while enjoying their academic experience at UVM.

For over 20 years Blanka has played an active role in evolving the undergraduate student experience of clubs and organizations, from creating trainings and workshops to restructuring the budget model to better fit the students’ needs.

Blanka loves making personal connection with students. When a student walks into her office, Blanka greets them with a contagious smile. The definition of proficiency, she always takes the time to have a quick word, or share a laugh. She asks about students’ class work, their job searches, and even gives relationship advice if asked. She has a way of recalling people’s names. She knows the name of the financial manager for every student club and organization, along with the full financial history of the group. She is incredibly helpful in orienting new members of the SGA.

Blanka serves as a mentor, an inspiration, and a teacher to each student she works with. She encourages them to think deeper, more critically and with an innovative approach. Blanka considers the potential for learning and growth in each situation that comes through the SGA office. Whether it be decisions regarding club finances, an idea to launch a new initiative, or a life dilemma, Blanka sees an opportunity for an aspiring professional to gain experience that can be called upon later in life. She has shared invaluable lessons in accounting, law, human resources, and productivity that students have taken into their professional lives. But what is most impactful for students in working with Blanka is her wisdom on leadership, justice, integrity, and respect—and her unflappable positivity.

Blanka’s generosity of spirit, her professionalism, and her natural way of working with students as colleague, mentor, and friend deeply and positively influence the Student Government Association—and therefore the student experience at large—across the UVM community.