After successfully completing my freshman year as Senator for the Student Government association, I am excited about what the future has to hold for us as a body. My goal for the 2017-2018 year is to reinvent the way we do Public Relations.

Right now our public relations capacity is limited to social media posts about upcoming events and newsletters sent to the listserv of the entire student body. The purpose of our committee is to have finger on the pulse the UVM undergraduate population and be interacting with individual students on a daily basis.

We can reach this capacity through our social media accounts. Working to create unique and relevant content tailored to each platform, will allow us to reach out to more students and hear more voices.

I believe I am qualified for this position due to my understanding of constituent response from my time this semester as an intern in the Governor’s office. Additionally, I have worked a wide range of social media marketing jobs throughout high school and into this year. I would like to use the experiences I’ve gained from these two different kinds of jobs, to empower students to feel as though their voice is heard. Furthermore, the senate can then pass resolutions based on responses and feedback from students themselves.

Other legislative content I feel strongly about includes the reinstatement of reading days and the Safe Ride Home Initiative. If I am elected, I would like to work on the both of the ad hoc committees surrounding these issues. First and foremost, I believe that it is paramount to our mental health and academic success that we reinstate the reading days to their original form so that students have adequate time to prepare for exams. Similarly, I want to help those heading the Safe Ride Home Initiative because I believe that student should never have to feel unsafe walking home—simply because they cannot afford an uber or taxi. These two issues, although summarized, are very important to both the current senators of the body and myself.

I hope that during the 2017-2018 school year we can reach out to more students and push forward more student initiatives in order to best enrich the student experience here at UVM. I know that I will do everything I can as a senator on the public relations committee to focus our efforts on feedback, awareness, and student interaction. Likewise, as a member of the senate at large I plan to vote and advocate for programs, clubs, student initiatives, and legislation that will better the mental, social, and academic aspects of being a student at UVM.