I am running to be re-elected for the Student Government Association Senate because I want to bring a greater, greener perspective to the University of Vermont. I believe it to be imperative to have a senate that contains a plethora of ideas, interests, and attributions for the student body. For me, I view myself as a steward for the environment, and I will take my fervor and passion for better waste management, greater transparency within “green” politics, and a more environmentally-conscious campus with me to the student government.

I was elected on the Committee on the Environment as a first-year senator and have served the student body since September 2016. On my committee, I have contributed to the University of Vermont through co-organizing Earth Appreciation Day, Carbon Neutral SGA, and Earth Week. Personally, I am leading the organization of “The Waste Mitigation Workshop”, which will be held during Earth Week on April 19th. The workshop’s aim is to create transparency behind composting, recycling, and landfill waste: where it goes, what happens to it, which items should be placed into which bin, and more. The workshop is additionally going to teach about zero-waste lifestyles, how one can mitigate her waste, and why it is so crucial in today’s world to do so.

In the future, I am already researching and gathering information about promoting composting bags throughout all residential halls, increasing their access, and further information about the importance of composting. Working with Corey Berman of UVM Recycling, we are hoping to create a greener campus that sends less organic materials to the landfill. I am also hoping to integrate waste destined for the landfill, such as bottle caps, and organize them in a way that they can beautify our campus instead of destroying the landscape of another area.

Other than SGA, I am currently an environmental science major in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources with a minor in wildlife biology and chemistry. I am a part of the Zero-Waste club, UVM Pottery Co-op, Dewey House for Community Engagement, and the UVM Rock Climbing Wall. Despite my other commitments, SGA is my top priority because I believe that there is nothing more worthwhile than serving those before you in a meaningful and impactful way.

Finally, I’d like to leave you with these remarks: leadership for me means making the sacrifice first for the betterment of those who stand with you. I believe that I am strong leader in this respect and an excellent candidate for the Student Government Association because I have a unique perspective on a multitude of issues--from being an environmentalist to a first year student to a friend who has helped loved ones come out of difficult times. From this, I am willing to sacrifice any and all parts of my time to fight for the underrepresented voices on campus on topics within the environment, climate justice, and beyond.