1. **What is your main purpose or reason for running for SGA Senate?**

Hello, my name is Caitlin McHugh and I want to continue to be the branch between the administration and the student body here at UVM. Being a first year student, I have already seen how difficult it can be to navigate the campus and express issues to people when they arise. As a member of the Academic Affairs Committee on Student Government, a member of Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority, Inter-Residence Association, Hall Council, and a Member of the UVM Board of Trustees, I have found many opportunities to be the voice of students. I want to continue my work with the Advising Center and College of Arts and Science Deans Office to make advising stronger and enable student issues to be heard and addressed.

2. **What characteristics do you feel you possess that would make you a strong student leader?**

I held many leadership positions in high school and since getting to college I have become very involved. The leadership opportunities I have been given shows me that I am never happier than when I am working with others to better the community. I attended a People to People leadership program, and as my group went through the week participating in various activities, I quickly learned that one of the best ways to be a leader, is to encourage everyone to get involved. As I hope to continue my work on SGA, I want to encourage more students to express their concerns and work to fix them. Additionally, being a member of the Board of Trustees gives me a unique opportunity to share student interests with other members such as President Sullivan, to make sure that undergraduates concerns and wishes are always a top priority. Within my sorority I was appointed to the position of Executive Assistant, where I am responsible for keeping members informed on important dates and can share their concerns with other executive members. I always try to represent the best interests of those around me and if re-elected I will continue to do the same.

**Do you have any past experiences or accomplishments that would qualify you for student position?**

As stated, I am already a member of the Academic Affairs Committee so I know how the system works and if re-elected can continue my work with Dean Bill Falls, trying to help undecided students feel more welcome at the university. I am a leader in my sorority and the UVM campus as a whole and I hope to continue to lead and make UVM a better place.

3. **Are there any issues that you are particularly interested in? Elaborate.**

One issue that particularly interests me is helping develop a guiding path for undecided majors and changing the name to Exploratory major. Though there is a great deal of support for undecided students at UVM, this support can be difficult to find and sometimes given a negative connotation. Being an undecided student myself, I have started discussions with Dean Falls about changing undecided to Exploratory and making a focus group to get students input. I want to expand the programs available for undecided students. Being a part of SGA gives me a unique opportunity to work with the administration and Faculty Senate to expand these programs. As I am determined to make a positive impact, SGA enables me to be an advocate for students who may not feel comfortable addressing their concerns with the school, or may not have the opportunity to make their voices heard. I truly want to continue to be the branch between administration and students.