

My name is Emily Garcia, and I am a first year Political Science major. I served on SGA this past year on the Committee on Legislative and Community Affairs and absolutely loved the work I got to do. As part of my responsibilities I attended Burlington Neighborhood Planning Associations, met with community leaders to create relationships between UVM and the City of Burlington, and explored Safe Ride options for students on campus. Currently, I am working with two of my fellow senators to increase and improve orientation resources for incoming students of color. Through partnerships with the MOSAIC Center, Counseling and Psychiatry Services, and Orientation staff we are planning to incorporate MOSAIC Center tours and events into the Orientation as well as make counselors of color more accessible to the communities they represent. I am deeply dedicated to advocating for student interests and opinions on campus, and ensuring that all students have the ability to access the resources necessary for them to be successful in their time here at UVM. If reelected, I plan to continue my work advocating for underrepresented students here on campus. Retaining and supporting these communities not only benefits them and their futures, but adds to our campus culture and perspectives. In more concrete terms, I will continue working to improve orientation programming, contact other identity centers and student bodies to meet their needs on campus, and promote education among administration. I am also planning to create programming for student leaders on campus, to help facilitate project ideas, and connect students who hope to see similar initiatives on campus. Serving as a part of SGA has been an incredibly informative and inspiring experience, and I would be ecstatic to have the ability to continue my work.