

Instructions: In five hundred (500) words or fewer, please submit your candidate platform in a text-based format.

For accessibility reasons, platforms **must** be text-based, as they will be the primary source of explaining your position.

The following are typical questions inquired of candidates. When describing your platform you may use these questions to frame your platform, but you should include any other information that you feel is pertinent to relay to potential voters.

- 1) What is your main purpose or reason for running for SGA Senate?
- 2) What characteristics do you feel you possess that would make you a strong student leader?
- 3) Do you have any past experiences or accomplishments that would qualify you for this position?
- 4) Are there any issues that you are particularly interested in? Elaborate.
- 5) Other comments.

I am running for SGA Senate to improve the facets of UVM that many in the student body wish to change, but do not have the power to. By being an advocate for them, my leadership position on senate would create meaningful change across campus and improve the lives of others beyond the material changes we on Senate could make. A record number of college students are facing mental health crises like depression and anxiety. With my addition, I could help the lives of students by creating a school environment that facilitates good mental health and helps those struggling by providing them the resources they need to grow.

As someone who has always been the oldest with my friends and family, leadership has been instilled in me for as long as I can remember. Responsibility and sensitivity to others has been a big asset in my life. This became especially true once I started my first job working as a volunteer sailing instructor at Piers Park Sailing Center in East Boston, MA. Volunteering at a sailing center taught me how to lead others while dealing with different types of adversity. While we had to deal with typical problems like rough weather and juvenile arguments, many kids dealt with problems that couldn't be solved so easily. The sailing center was a safe haven for the kids, many of whom couldn't afford to sail if the camp wasn't a resource for them. By helping these kids, I learned how to instruct with empathy, and understood the problems many face that I am lucky enough to not know firsthand. This opportunity would influence my position on SGA Senate greatly, as this leadership experience has influenced my person and would help me lead with empathy and gratitude.

I served on my high school's student government as senior secretary, and that experience allowed me to understand how student leadership works, as well as learn how to communicate with people throughout the school and make connections that worked to create change in the school environment. We planned fun events like dress-down days, school trips, and code of conduct revisions that improved morale around the school, and these experiences would aid me greatly in a committee like Student Action and Wellbeing. My plans to improve the university align closely with that of CSAW, and I look forward to an opportunity to work with them to make aspects of UVM better and more enjoyable for all students.

At UVM, I am excited to work with a group of my peers to specifically advance the mental health of the school as a whole. If I were to be voted into Senate, I would work to make students feel safe and supported through improving housing, safety on campus, and making UVM a space anyone can live and thrive in.