



## **HENLEY LYNCH**

UVM, we have some problems to solve. My goal in running for the University of Vermont's SGA Senate is to serve as a strong and caring advocate for the people. Every person's voice is immeasurably valuable, and I want to help facilitate more conversations on students' challenges today. Conversations about diversity, mental health, and campus-based violence are paramount to the creation of a safer feeling here at UVM. I also want to encourage student leaders and other SGA members to engage in these dialogues, so we as student representatives always keep the pulse of our constituents.

Through my previous work in high school as Committee Chair of Academics and Tutoring for the National Honors Society, as well as Legislative Director of the climate activism organization Confront the Climate Crisis in my home state of Indiana, I understand what it takes to be at the forefront of issues real students care about. Throughout my initial first weeks as a student, I immediately noticed a theme among student social media posts: loneliness. Many students feel like they aren't making friends at the "correct" pace, or that they'll be "spending another Saturday night alone." I worry at the number of students discussing transferring with a desperate plea, firm in the belief that UVM doesn't have what they need.

I want to turn that narrative around completely, and it starts with better presentations of all the fantastic ways to get involved with our school. With over two hundred clubs and the infinite possibility to make more, there is something for everyone at the University of Vermont. Fliers in the Davis Center are a good start, but as an SGA Senator, I would task myself with creating an outreach team to make options for student inclusion as sleek and comprehensive as possible. Part of this goal comes with collaboration with fellow SGA members across multiple committees. I want to ask: what can we all do to re-introduce UVM to its students? As your senator, Henley Lynch, I want to revitalize the Catamount spirit.