Hi all! My name is Sofa, I'm a first year student and I'm from Almaty, Kazakhstan. Here at UVM I'm majoring in Natural Resources. I really like figure skating, analog photography, learning new languages and I also recently picked up some clubs like taekwondo and volunteering organization! I'm looking forward to connecting with new people and getting to learn what others are interested in!!

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Why SGA?

- My #1 priority is to hear about students’ needs from students. Being a successful leader means integrating and improving together with the community.

Having past experience being an executive member of SGA in my previous community helped me lay the base in my understanding on how to stay organized on a path to shared goal and prioritize my teammates no matter what!

Goals&Ideas!

I am looking forward to learning which aspects of UVM (and outside!) need attention and bettering our community together. Here are some things I noticed as a freshman that could potentially be worked on this year:

**Cafeterias.** We produce a lot of waste: landfill and food waste; work out a solution to reduce the amounts of great food being thrown out.

**Inclusion.** Attending orientation for new students this year made me realize that it was not for everyone and I really would love to better it for next year freshmen!

**Safety.** Providing safe spaces and other resources ensuring students’ well being is one of the key part to a healthy functioning society. Working towards improving safety and providing a sense of a strong community will do only good things for UVM.