



Hello! My name is Juliana Ward, and I am a freshman at UVM. My hope in running for senate is to help create an atmosphere on campus in which everyone feels accepted, included, and confident in who they are. Growing up in a primarily white community, I often felt isolated from my peers simply because of my race. Furthermore, I have both witnessed and experienced the effects of racist behavior, often labeled as harmless jokes. Coming to UVM, knowing that the student body is about 80% white, I was nervous about encountering the same racism and isolation I felt at home. While my experiences thus far have been mostly positive, there is still a lot of room for improvement, and that is what I hope to focus on during my time as a senator. As a person of color and also as a student of the school I understand that representation and inclusion are so important especially in communities where being a “minority” feels especially noticeable. I want to add a voice of color to the Senate table and make sure that everyone is represented and thought of when decisions are being made. Furthermore, I want to work to improve the diversity of UVM with each incoming class.