Kevin Motia for Senate

About me
My name’s Kevin, and I’m running for my first term as a senator in the SGA.
- I’m a junior, and I’m majoring in physics with a minor in mathematics
- For fun, I snowboard, and I play on the club football team
- I’m a native Vermonter
Likes:
- Good Education Systems
Dislikes:
- Nestle
- Pharmaceutical companies
- UVM’s administration
- Koch Industries
- Covid-19

Superficial Expenditures
UVM has been making superficial expenditures while making budget cuts to Arts and Sciences programs to account for a declining number of college-bound students. They’re trying to make room in the budget for aesthetic upgrades to trick unknowing high schoolers into thinking that they care about their education. UVM is operating like a corporation; their priority is money. Funding that would provide students with a better education is being cut while a multi-million dollar athletic facility is being built. Reducing unnecessary and costly renovations to our campus and increasing the funding for our academic programs could help us begin to transition UVM into a school with some integrity.

Faculty Accountability
Current faculty are not being held accountable when they do not fulfill their roles as educators. Of course, there are many faculty members who meet and surpass the expectations we have of them, but there are many who do not even come close to fulfilling their duties.

A first step to rectifying this situation would be to make our course evaluations public, while keeping them anonymous. Although very similar to RateMyProfessor.com, I feel like only for extreme cases do students actually use that website. Allowing course evaluations to be public would provide a larger amount of data regarding professors’ teaching habits, and posting the evaluations would put underperforming professors in the spotlight.
Course Organization
For some majors, the order in which courses need to be taken is troublesome. Sometimes courses require knowledge from classes students haven’t taken yet. It can be time consuming to teach yourself information from classes you should have already learned on top of your regular classes. I’d like to work with our academic departments in making more logical recommended course schedules for each major to ease student workloads while improving their quality of education.

Academic Transparency
Students should be able to see the class syllabus before they register for the course. They should be able to see exactly what topics are covered in the course before they sign up, what they’ll be graded on, and how they will be graded.

Supporting our Teachers
UVM’s administration makes aesthetic upgrades to campus in order to make itself appear more prestigious than it is, and some teachers are being forced from full-time to part-time while teaching the same number of students. Basically, some professors are doing the same job they did previously for, but now for less money. This is just one example of how our professors are being mistreated, and I think we should be supporting them in their fight against the administration.