Hello to the UVM undergraduate student body!
First, I’d like to thank you for taking the time to read my platform.
You’re staying educated on electoral candidates, and that’s awesome!

A little about myself: I will be a sophomore this fall, studying art and sociology. I am very interested in law, politics, and how artistic activism fits into our rapidly evolving social and political systems.

Being a senator on the Public Relations Committee this past spring made me acutely aware of the tumultuous series of events from this past year involving SGA, the UVM administration, and the controversial methods employed by both in dealing with situations of sexual misconduct allegations. It has motivated me to stand out as your most trustworthy and capable candidate in terms of instilling change within our current governing organization.

This change starts primarily with how SGA is able to directly respond to the needs and wants of students.

Our administration has proved to be an obstacle in terms of carrying out these needs-- whether it be blocking constitutional amendments, involving themselves in internal SGA issues or providing ambiguous information designed to confuse and divide students, the need to transform student leadership on campus is more urgent than ever before.

This is why I am running alongside a slate of candidates whose core interest is the formation of a Student Union. Education and lengthy discussion has brought together a group of us who share your desire for a more accessible, flexible and gratifying student governing body. Our working goal (open to conference) is to restructure SGA so that it is divided into larger legislative bodies that collaborate with one another, includes universal student membership, a judicial branch, open discussion forums, and invites club representatives to be legislators within the union, similarly to an organizational program board. This would allow for an expansion in democratic governance for the UVM student body, allow for clubs to advocate more directly for their own events and fundraising, and effective planning that actually meets student wants and needs.

The current formation of the Student Government Organization is similar to that of our nation’s Senate-- in that it is outdated, and no longer represents its large and diverse population of constituents. By implementing a joint restructuring effort that would take place immediately upon the meeting of a newly elected body of students, we can together accomplish the difficult but critical task that is founding a student union.

Today, I ask for your vote, and stand proudly among the senate hopefuls who will get the job done.

Thank you for your consideration, and remember to vote! Feel free to hit me up at ipipa@uvm.edu with any questions or suggestions :)