Hey there! My name’s Sarah, and I’m humbled to be running for SGA Senate.

Here’s a little bit about me, maybe we’ll have something in common!
- I’m a sophomore majoring in Environmental Studies in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.
- I am from West Islip, a town on the south shore of Long Island, New York and went to West Islip Public High School.
- I’m a leader in both UVM Progressives and Organize UVM, fighting for UVM to divest from fossil fuel companies. I have been working several hours a week with a group of passionate activists since November 2018 to get UVM divested. I run our Instagram page and write a lot of emails to the listserv, so you may have heard from me before!
- Some of my other experiences include being an intern at 350 Vermont, working on Jane Stromberg’s city council campaign, and volunteering for Jack Hanson’s. I was also a TA for the Arts and Creativity learning community class, and currently am for Environmental Studies 002. In high school, I organized a paper recycling program, campus clean-up projects and other environmental initiatives!
- My other interests are art, poetry and writing in general, memes, all-things-climate-activism, veganism, social justice, hiking, camping, swimming and spending time in nature and with animals!

I have many ideas for SGA, and my role as a senator to best serve the student body. Here are some of my plans:
- As a fossil fuel divestment organizer, this is a top priority. If elected, I want to use my position to push divestment forward and make sure that SGA can help the movement as much as possible. I also want to make it easier for students to plug into the movement, in general and as a part of SGA!
- Help to create a Student Union to make UVM’s student governing body more representative of the student body. Too often, students don’t get their voices heard and important issues are not addressed. A union of students, with room for everyone to be listened to and accounted for, is of utmost importance. A union would prioritize activism and student wellbeing. The Student Union would not be beholden to the administration and is accountable to students first and foremost.
- Going off of my first two points, I want to do everything possible to protect and empower fellow student activists.
- Transparency and accountability is key in any leadership position. I prioritize this in my own leadership roles and plan to continue to practice these values as a senator, and to encourage this amongst other leaders. I also support current senators’ existing efforts to hold leadership accountable, address sexual assault and provide resources to those affected, and uplift marginalized groups. I plan on doing everything I can to help with and support these efforts as they are key to the equity and success of SGA’s work, and a Student Union.
- Too often, students are not met with compassion and kindness when addressing issues with leadership. I want to be a voice of compassion in SGA.
  - Additionally, mental health issues are often overlooked. We need to normalize openness about mental health, and ensure that there are resources available to every student. This includes more funding to CAPS and no longer perpetuating the stigma around mental illness.
- Above all else, I am committed to doing all I can in life to protect the environment. Along with divestment, I am passionate about plant-based eating, composting and other initiatives that can help minimize the effects on climate change. I plan on continuing to fight for climate justice as a senator and throughout my time at UVM.

Thank you for taking a look at my platform, and I’d sincerely appreciate your vote! If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or just want to chat, feel free to reach out to me at sarah.sciortino@uvm.edu, @sarah.for.senate, or 6315590448.
Sarah Sciortino for SGA Senate 2020 ✦