



# BSTRIKER 4FILLS

Hello, Middlebury community members! Here is an introduction to our campaign and a comprehensive list of our policy proposals for the 2024-25 academic year. Please feel free to reach out to us at <a href="mailto:bstraker@middlebury.edu">bstraker@middlebury.edu</a>, <a href="mailto:dtazabekova@middlebury.edu">dtazabekova@middlebury.edu</a>, or <a href="mailto:tcchang@middlebury.edu">tcchang@middlebury.edu</a>!

### **About Us**



## President-Elect: B Striker

Hi there, I am B Striker '25 (he/him) – your advocate, collaborator, and friend. I may have 4filled (fulfilled) your needs by serving as Sophomore Senator, hosting 4Meals to build community, or even driving 4Wheels to provide transportation. Throughout my junior year, I've been away, learning about how Middlebury presents itself around the world. From Middlebury Language Schools, to Middlebury in Monterey, to Middlebury in Spain, there's so much wisdom that I am so excited to bring back to Middlebury, Vermont as a senior and your SGA President next fall.



## Vice President-Elect: Talia Chang

Hi! My name is Talia (she/her) and I'm from New Haven, Connecticut. As a History major with a double minor in Black Studies and Education, I'm passionate about how I can help make institutions of higher education more accessible and equitable through advocacy and community service. I'm proud to be an SGA Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, a Middlebury Museum of Art intern, a member of PALANA/KASA/BSU/WOC, a Resident Assistant in Stewart Hall, and a barista at Crossroads! In my free time, I enjoy making zines, reading, shopping on Depop, journaling, and swimming.

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# Vice President-Elect: Daniza Tazabekova

Hello! My name is Daniza (she/her) and I'm a first-gen political science and English literature double-major from Brooklyn, New York. On campus, I'm President of MiddVotes, an Equity Fellow, Oratory Coach, Winter Term TA, SGA DEI committee member, and Democracy Initiatives Intern at the CCE! In my leisure time, I enjoy watching anime, reading and spending time with friends. Since I'm on the pre-law track, I am interning with a federal judge this summer.

#### **Ideas and Initiatives**

# 4OurCommunity

- Organize regular class assemblies and dinners to create a sense of community within each class and foster interpersonal connections between students.
- Restarting 4Meals, a community-building initiative where you can meet with B Striker, Talia, Daniza, and other new people, potentially eating with a new friend every single day.
- If you haven't read this week's <u>Middlebury Campus Staff Issue</u> already, just remember this: Students make the college, but staff make the campus. We intend to cultivate a greater sense of respect, responsibility and appreciation for Middlebury's hard-working staff through dining-hall-specific events and staff appreciation days.
- Sponsor more facilitated conversations with the help of community organizations like
  JusTalks, Conflict Transformation, MiddVotes, and the Office of Institutional Diversity,
  Equity and Inclusion (OIDEI) to promote respectful conversations and provide a space
  for students to share their concerns and enact solutions for change.
  - Read our statement on Justice for Palestine
- Recently, there have been expressed concerns about the lack of school-wide events and
  activities on campus, and while Bingo Blingo is a big hit, we acknowledge the need for
  increased engagement by organizations like MCAB. Given that Middlebury's sense of
  community engagement is spearheaded by student-led organizations, we aim to
  collaborate with MCAB by possibly establishing an MCAB SGA Liaison to increase

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their presence and ensure more fun and engaging events are planned throughout the school year.

Close divide between athletes-non-athletes; creating an Athletics SGA Liaison.

#### 4OurAccess

- Developing a volunteer (or employment) system where students can offer personal (and/or compensated) rides to and from Burlington Airport, Albany Airport, the Middlebury Amtrak station, etc.
- A potential partnership with MiddDash, offering compensation for students to work as MiddDash or delivery drivers.
- A digital platform for students to sell, loan or donate their textbooks and other classroom materials to fellow students, improving financial accessibility and creating a shared sense of community and learning.
- Introducing or bringing back a form of ZipCar and electric scooter/bike sharing systems.
- Developing a free shuttle service to the Middlebury Amtrak station during breaks.

#### 4OurHealth

- We intend to coordinate with the Disability Resource Center and faculty to ensure that classrooms are fully accessible to students, including closed caption screenings, note-takers, and recorded lectures when necessary.
- We intend to diversify food and dining options between 2 and 4:30 P.M., which is when dining halls are typically closed. Some potential options include working with student-led food services like MiddNight Truck, MiddDash and other cultural organizations to expand Middlebury cuisine and accessibility.
- We will advocate for healthier late-night dining options at the Grille and Midd-X, so students are not limited to burgers, fries and pizza every night.
- Mental health is a consistent policy focus for student government, and contrary to what many students believe, Middlebury is moving in the right direction. The Center for Health and Wellness has recently contracted a new BIPOC mental health counselor and increased its budget for mental health resources – but many students don't know this. We intend to be more transparent about these new developments and maintain an optimistic, yet realistic, approach to mental health services.

### 4OurTransparency

Diligently, consistently, and wholeheartedly communicating with the student body with videos, emails, updates, and surveys.

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- Maintaining a well-informed student body regarding the College's financial resources, including financial aid developments, tuition increases, investments and donations.
- Maintaining a strong social media/online presence through Instagram and the Middlebury SGA website.
- Crisis response with heartfelt communication from the SGA.
- Videos of bill signing and other work that happens within the SGA.

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