Rachel Stern: Platform for UB Council Student Representative

In my seven years as an undergrad, graduate student, and employee at UB, I have become a strong advocate for the needs of all students. The university leadership has made some excellent decisions to benefit the student body, but other times their efforts fall flat. The detrimental effects impact our personal finances, student satisfaction, and our willingness to stay involved. As UB Council Student Representative, I hope to change that.

My platform was created with the intention to benefit all students:

- While I support SA’s proposal to split the Athletics fee into Athletics and Recreation, I want to reduce the Recreation charge for undergrads, and start charging graduate students a nominal Recreation fee with a simple “opt-out” solution if they would rather use other facilities.
- Sub-Board I, Inc. (SBI) is not the right fit for many student governments and clubs; the services they provide should be audited and moved under the control of University Life & Services.
- Allow all students – not just those represented by SA and GSA – equal access to Distinguished Speaker Series lectures. Currently, professional students need to pay for the lectures.
- Consult with students and conduct focus groups before making large-scale decisions.
- Provide an hourly Stampeade from North Campus to the downtown Medical Campus and renew negotiations with the NFTA so all students get bus and metro rail access.
- Hire students to work part-time on the main phone lines, avoiding the “UB-runaround” where you get redirected, frustrated, and transferred several times before getting the answer you need.
- All university departments and student governments should provide copies of their financial statements to students in an easily accessible manner.

The full platform has additional ideas to increase collaboration and promote a greater sense of campus pride. Please contact me at rachelst@buffalo.edu with any questions or comments!