## Hello Class of 2024!

My name is Abbie, I am a 4th year on the Women's Rowing Team, an American Studies Major, Charlottesville lover, and Sheetz' number 1 fan.

What a crazy time for you to enter a University! You are extremely strong to be here or going through with this semester from home. Setting your higher education career off in the middle of a pandemic will be something you will never forget. I can't imagine the abnormality of it all that you are feeling a bit out of your comfort zone, but you are loved and welcomed at UVA and the community that comes with it.

There are some amazing things to do here in Charlottesville or virtually for the University- get involved! I am an athlete and so a lot of my time has been spent amongst the athletics department but that being said I have made sure to get involved every year at the many events the University puts on. So far, my favourite things to do at UVA are going to Lighting of the Lawn and cheering teams on at athletics games- I know it will be different this year but whenever there is a sense of community at UVA I get excited! There are so many ways to help out too so make sure to take a look at the things that interest you and ways you can help in those aspects!

Good luck with your first year! I hope you safely enjoy what the University can provide you so that next year you can enjoy everything at a better standard! Make lots of friends and keep smiling!

Sincerely, Abbie Class of 2021!