Why should you join the UIMF at Utah Valley University?

• Make a difference in lives of the mountain communities around the globe

• Develop useful skills for future job market through focusing on sustainable mountain development. Such as:
  - Community engaged learning
  - Event organizing
  - Diplomatic and formal communications
  - Inter-personal and inter-organizational planning

• Make connections with influential companies, organizations, nations, and individuals

• Network and interact with students, clubs, and faculty with a shared interest in international relations, business, politics related to sustainable mountain development that is as great as your own interest
**WHY THE FOCUS ON SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT?**

The Mountain Partnership (MP) coordinates sustainable mountain advocacy around the globe. In 2006, Utah Valley University (UVU) joined the MP, since UVU is willing to contribute its best experiences and knowledge to help further the cause.

The State of Utah as a model of sustainable mountain development (SMD) share many priorities and goals promoted by the Mountain Partnership.

Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF) was created in 2011 as a coalition of student clubs at UVU in order to engage students in SMD advocacy.

**UIMF INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING CLUBS:**
- Sustainable Development Club
- Foreign Affairs Club
- American-Israeli Alliance
- Cinematography Club
- Russian/Slavic Club
- Model UN
- History Club

The third volume of Youth and the Mountains journal featuring student papers was published by the History & Political Science department March, 2017.


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**Students Advocate Sustainable Development Goals**

**Utah Valley University Students at the United Nations, December 2013**

UVU Student, Jesler Molina Speaking before the UN Open Working Group

UIMF Discussed SDGS Advocacy with the President of ECOSOC, February 2015

Utah Valley University Students hosted the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations and President of ECOSOC, Ambassador Martin Sajdik (second from the right) at UVU


UIMF President, Tony Medina

- For the first time, a UVU delegation attended the 60th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York City
  - [https://www.flickr.com/photos/137543593@N02/sets/72157665988463635/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/137543593@N02/sets/72157665988463635/)

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**Students Hosted International Women of the Mountains Conference**

Participants of the Fourth International Women of the Mountains Conference held October 7-9, 2015 in Orem, UT

- For the first time, UIMF students hosted and organized the Fourth International Women of the Mountains Conference under the umbrella of the Mountain Partnership affiliated to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN.
- Participants of the conference included officials from the UN, the State Department, experts and scholars from Utah, the Rocky Mountain region, as well as 20 plus mountainous nations.
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKeGuTVmEzU&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKeGuTVmEzU&feature=youtu.be)

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**The United Nations Secretary-General’s Report on Sustainable Mountain Development (SMD), A/71/256, from July 29, 2016,**

39. The Utah International Mountain Forum hosted the fourth International Women of the Mountains Conference at Utah Valley University in October 2015 to address the critical issues faced by women and children living in mountainous regions across the globe and provide a forum to discuss gender equality. The outcome document contained the following observations:

(a) Goal 5 could be achieved through strong support for improving women’s rights and welfare, including women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life;

(b) Successful implementation of target 6.6 could be achieved by supporting the vital role that women play in the protection of the environment and water sources, particularly as custodians of traditional knowledge that builds resilience and allows for adaptation to climate change;

(c) With respect to target 15.1, women play a critical role in joint planning as promoters of innovation, development and cooperation for common benefit.”

The United Nations Secretary-General’s Report on Sustainable Mountain Development (SMD), A/71/256, from July 29, 2016,