

United Nations Day at Utah Valley University focuses on Sustainable Development Goals



(L to R): Andre Jones, Derek Garfield and Dylan Genes, UVU students during the UN Day event

Utah Valley University hosted the United Nations Day on October 24, 2017. Students from all backgrounds gathered to discuss ways they can get involved in the United Nations initiatives all the way from the mountainous area of Utah Valley.

I am a student involved with the Center for National Security Studies at UVU and was invited to participate during this United Nations event, which was hosted by the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF). This coalition of clubs at UVU gathered other clubs and hundreds of students to attend various events to discuss how to best further the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with student efforts at UVU. Not only has this raised awareness about the UN's SDGs, but it has brought women in the mountains as a key topic surrounding foreign affairs students at the University. I was able also to contribute to hosting by

UIMF the fourth international Women of the Mountains conference in October 7-9, 2015. Displayed in the photo above, this group of students spoke with people in the halls at UVU, surrounded by the flags from countries around the world. I spoke with students who spoke multiple languages at such a young age, which is commonplace in Utah – which is part of the reason why the Center for National Security Studies is thriving at UVU, along with the UN initiatives.

UVU also hosted a Sustainability day on campus, where they revealed a new location for students to recycle – an entire wall dedicated to sustainability at Utah Valley University. This is evidence that a portion of the 37,000 students at UVU are working to reflect the sustainability initiatives in Utah at the United Nations with their SDGs. As a student who has seriously participated in this effort, I believe the student efforts here can have great impact on the goals of the United Nations.

Andre Jones, Foundation Ambassador, Center for National Security Studies