

## Meeting with Ambassador of Hungary to the US, Dr. Lazlo Szabo



Ambassador of Hungary to the United States, Dr. Lazlo Szabo, came to Utah Valley University (UVU) to meet with students and administrators. As a current student majoring in National Security at UVU, I had the opportunity to attend this event which took place on Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> 2018. Through, H. E. Dr. Lazlo Szabo presentation I was provided with information of foreign affairs, trade and the background of the country Hungary.

Ambassador Szabo opened his lecture by discussing the background of Hungary. The country was established 896 A.D. and has been involved in many wars which have gone unrecognized by the world. The people living there originated mainly from Asia and are proud of their Judeo - Christian background which had an origin in the year 1000 because of the conversion of the reigning King at that time.

Hungary is approximately the size of the state Indiana and has recently been making progress in economic development which have led to the growth and more prosperity in the country. For example, Hungary currently has the lowest tax percentage in Europe, having personal income tax rates at 15% and corporate tax rates at 9%. Its trade export has increased by 10% and the total trade is at \$217.9 billion. Illegal immigration was a major issue but with some drastic changes, including building a fence, the number of daily cases has declined dramatically.



**Ambassador Lazlo Szabo and Laila Mitchell (right to left)**

In addition to describing the economic growth of the country as one of its achievements, Ambassador Szabo took time to express his love for his country to represent the common love all Hungarians share. They take pride in their inventions and innovations, so Ambassador Szabo

shared how Hungarians have impacted the world. For example, he informed how Hungarians contributed to Hollywood, invented computer windows, and began startups. All of these inventions are necessary to Americans everyday use. Through Ambassador Szabo's presentation, I recognized how important are both the growth of the economy as well as preserving culture and language for modern Hungary.

***Laila Mitchell, Student, Utah Valley University***