

## **Mr. Maher Nasser from United Nations speaks before Utah Valley University students**



Utah Valley University (UVU) hosted Mr. Maher Nasser, who is the Director of Outreach Division from the United Nations Department of Public Information on November 28, 2018. Mr. Nasser has worked within the UN for more than 31 years in a variety of different positions. Mr. Nasser's talk centered around multilateralism and its use in advocating for the UN Sustainable Development Goals. He said that 68.5 million people are displaced in the world, that are also being assisted by the UN. The UN organization UNICEF uses multilateralism to address other problems by vaccinating 45% of the children around the world. Therefore, through the

means of multilateralism, the United Nations has been able to secure the passing of 80% of resolutions proposed, contrary to popular opinion.

In the search for new plans and actions on how to slow climate change, Mr. Maher Nasser briefly discussed how some crises in the past have been approached. Some examples being; fighting against terrorists to strike, the Ebola crisis in Africa, as well as human rights in developing countries. He stressed the importance of the world coming together and working towards a common set goal. Without the help of things like NGO's and like the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF) a coalition of student clubs at UVU, that focuses on the sustainability of mountainous regions throughout the world, the sustainability of the earth as a whole would not show the results that are needed for a better tomorrow.

Mr. Maher Nasser provided real world insight of how international organizations work together and how the greater good could become reality. The United Nations manages those efforts to ensure that the maximum threshold of good is being done for areas that fell subject to devastation, in the case that there were not people or organizations at the head of these projects, then the different organizations could neglect certain aspects of the relief and sustainability is becomes far from reach. Therefore, the insightful lecture given by Mr. Maher Nasser and his 17 steps of sustainability added depth and value to the work that is carried out by the Utah International Mountain Forum and the drive for a sustainable and better tomorrow.

*Kyle Williams, UVU student*