Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), a coalition of student clubs at Utah Valley University (UVU) had the opportunity to participate in club rush at university campus. This event is a great recruitment opportunity for UIMF as it allows us to take a grassroots approach to promote our message and reach out to other disciplines. This allows UIMF to put UVU’s academic model of engaged learning into practice as various members work together to ensure UIMF’s participation goes smoothly. Every time UIMF participates in club rush I am reminded that much of UIMF’s strength comes from its ability to recruit diverse students and develop relations with clubs around UVU. I had the privilege of manning our booth during club rush. Doing so allowed me to reach out to a vast array of students with majors such as business, political science, and business to name a few.
All are necessary as Sustainable Mountain Development (SMD) is a cross disciplinary field that requires a whole of society approach in order to be effectively and efficiently implemented. It was great to interact with UVU’s many students and work alongside current UIMF members. Work such as this can sometimes be overlooked due to its simplicity but it is needed if UIMF hopes to continue to grow.

As Vice President of Outreach I was pleased to see members of my directorate participating in club rush. They showed that they are willing to do the work necessary to help UIMF grow which in turn will help further SMD efforts. I’m excited to see what this semester has in store as experienced members and recruits come together to help UIMF grow. A successful club rush is just the beginning for UIMF. As a veteran member of UIMF I am confident that this semester will be UIMF’s most successful semester yet as we push ourselves further then we’ve gone before. The future looks bright for UIMF as current members have shown their commitment and recruits have shown their willingness to pursue SMD goals. I cannot wait to see what UIMF accomplishes this semester.

_Mark Driggs, VP of Outreach, UIMF_