

Contributing to hosting Mr. Richard Jordan at UVU



On April 8th, 2019, I had the opportunity to work with Mr. Joel Frost, President of the Foreign Affairs Club at Utah Valley University (UVU) and the UVU Office for Global Engagement to help host Richard Jordan. Richard Jordan the Dean of UN Non-governmental representatives in New York.

Specifically, this event was a luncheon held before a lecture given by Mr. Jordan. In addition to Mr. Jordan, the luncheon included high-ranking individuals from around UVU and students. This was an opportunity that blended different organizations and departments together in an informal, yet important way.

Attendees were able to hear personal stories from Mr. Richard Jordan, who has spent more hours at the UN headquarters than anyone in history. He knows the innerworkings of the UN better than almost anyone. It was a unique opportunity to hear – in a somewhat informal setting – the hidden complexities within the UN organization.

One of the things that struck me most about Mr. Jordan's actions during this event was his genuine interest he took in learning the students' name, background, and major. I was also struck at how humble Mr. Jordan was. He has accomplished much within the UN and outside of it, but

he still manages to remain extremely humble. It is clear that he has a strong desire to learn and to promote learning across different platforms and disciplines.

Although my role was mostly behind the scenes, I consider myself very lucky to have been able to meet Mr. Jordan through this event and connect with other engaged students. I met students from various backgrounds and different majors.

Utah Valley University is slowly being recognized for the hidden gem that it is by individuals like Mr. Richard Jordan and other institutions. It is through luncheons like these that we grow as a university and teach the public about all the different opportunities offered.

Parker Dolton, UVU student