

Learning about NGOs role at the UN from Mr. Jordan



Utah Valley University (UVU) had the opportunity to host Richard Jordan, Dean of UN Non-governmental representatives on April 8, 2019. It happened as a result of the student engaged learning initiative of members of the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), a coalition of student clubs at UVU and Mr. Joel Frost, President of the Foreign Affairs club and part of the UIMF. Mr. Joel Frost with a group of students was able to raise funds, prepare an agenda, arrange logistics and other issues for the dignitary when faculty advised them when it was necessary.

Mr. Jordan discussed his roles and responsibilities of the non-governmental organizations at the United Nations and the changes that have transpired since 1989. I found Richard Jordan to be extremely informative and insightful, I appreciate Jordan's alternative out of the box thinking and listening to his experiences throughout his career with United Nations. Mr. Jordan encourages multilateralism; he emphasized the importance of creating a comprehensive coordination amongst subsidiary organizations in terms of economic and social ideals. For example, expanding the

diversity by involving women in the non-governmental organization will inspire embracing opportunities for everyone.

I had also an assignment of providing easels for the events. Although my role was minimal, my involvement required effective communications and facilitating by being a contributing member to UIMF and Richard Jordan's visit. This opportunity has provided me with developing a sense of responsibility, and working as part of the team.

I am looking forward to participating in future events and opportunities and working with other students and staff especially in the involvement in environmental sustainability.

Brianna John, UVU student