

## **Congressman McAdams highlighted UIMF efforts to advocate mountain women at the UN**



On April 23, 2019, Congressman Ben McAdams, a Democrat representing Utah’s fourth district visited Utah Valley University. His visit to Utah Valley University included a meeting with the university’s president, Astrid S. Tuminez as well as a meeting with members of the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF). UIMF is a coalition of student run clubs at UVU who helped to contribute to the agenda of the 63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

During our meeting, we were able to share with Congressman McAdams the work we did in New York and the experience we had. We made history as the only student group in the United States to set the agenda for the UN forum through the student engaged learning model.

During meeting each student explained how important the student engaged learning model is to their individual academic success. Many of us at the table are non-tradition students and receiving an education has been a challenge. However, we have overcome that by prioritizing our time and focusing on event that is we are passion about both inside and outside of the classroom.



*Congressman McAdams post on Twitter highlighting his meeting with UVU students.*

Congressman McAdams expressed his support for our advocacy of mountain girls, women, and communities. He agreed with us that mountain women and girls globally and specifically in Utah are often forgotten and neglected.

After we spoke with the Congressman, he encouraged us to continue to work hard and stay involved in political issues and advocacy. He expressed his gratitude for our work at the United Nations and encouraged us to continue to advocate for those who cannot advocate for themselves. He presented our group with a copy of a Congressional record that was given on the floor of the United States House of Representatives highlighting the work our student coalition did.

*Ezra Pugliano, Political Science Student, UIMF Member*