SMD Advocacy through a Student Engaged Learning Model at Utah Valley University

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About Utah Valley University

- Utah Valley University is the largest University in the state of Utah
  - Over 42,000 students enrolled
  - Dual mission university - trade and university courses
  - Average family income of students is roughly $30,000
Utah Valley University
Empowering Youth Through:

**Institutional Policies**
- Emergency scholarships for those unable to pay rent;
- Appropriated scholarships for first generation students

**Academic Programs**
- New certificate in Sustainable Development under development;
- Student Engaged Learning
What is Student Engaged Learning (SEL)?

1) Students are given a problem to solve;
2) students work together as a group to learn how to solve the problem;
3) faculty serve them as mentors, and
4) students are responsible for their own learning during the process of problem solving.
UIMF as a core of the SEL co-curricular model for SMD advocacy

Utah International Mountain Forum is a coalition of student clubs such as Foreign Affairs club, Sustainable Mountain Development club, Model UN club, Rotaract, etc. UIMF was created in 2011. Website: UIMF advocated for the adoption of mountain targets during 2013-2015. UIMF advocates now for the implementation of mountain targets at local, national and UN levels.

Michael Hinatsu, President, Foreign Affairs club
Lacee Meyer, President, Sustainable Mountain Development club
Kyle Warren, President, Rotaract
Andrew Jensen, President, Model UN club
Advisors: Dr. Baktybek Abdrisaev, Dr. Rusty Butler, and Dr. Sara Ulloa

Jesler Molina, UIMF President speaks at Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals on December 11, 2013

UIMF is a UVU chapter of the UNA-USA

The model inclusively involves in SMD advocacy UVU students, especially non-traditional learners, who usually work full or part time, support families, and range from 25 to 75 years of age.
UIMF at United Nations:

- **52nd session of the Commission on Social Development, 2018**
- **62nd session of the Commission on Status of Women, 2018**
- **High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, 2018**
- **63rd session of the Commission on Status of Women, 2019**
- **68th United Nations Civil Society Conference, 2019**
- **UN Secretary General’s Reports on Sustainable Mountain Development 2016, 2019**
Recommendations for Mountain Women Advocacy at CSW64:

- **UIMF Will Do the Following at CSW64:**
  1) request to include mountain women and girls in the final document of CSW 64 through stakeholder written requests
  2) host a parallel event at CSW 64 (pending approval)
  3) Make an oral statement and intervention from the floor

- **UIMF Will Ask Mountain Nations to:**
  1) Include language about mountain women and girls in the outcome document of CSW 64
  2) Urge members in VNRs to report on mountain women and girls
  3) Include UIMF in your side events
Thank you very much for your attention