

To the Utah International Mountain Forum And Student Participants at Utah Valley University

## Dear Friends:

We are here today to celebrate International Mountain Day and raise awareness about the impact on mountain communities from such modern challenges as climate change, poverty, and migration.

International Mountain Day is an occasion which allows us to evaluate and address the particular strengths, opportunities, challenges, and weaknesses of mountain communities.

Utah is uniquely situated to address humanitarian needs, the challenges of climate change, and the difficulties of those living in poverty as we have a thriving economy, our population is well educated, and Utah's citizens are known for reaching out to help and serve others.

The efforts of the Utah International Mountain Forum and other student-led groups at Utah Valley University have brought valuable insight to these issues in Utah, across the nation, and globally, and will continue to raise awareness and encourage involvement in our communities.

I am excited to see what the next years will bring as you continue your efforts.

With warm regard,

Mayòr Richard T. Brunst