



Office of International Affairs & Diplomacy

March 28, 2014

Mr. Joseph McCain and Dr. Keith Snedegar
Co-Chairs
Organizing Committee
Utah Annual High School Essay Contest

Dear colleagues,

It gives me pleasure to greet you and the participants of the Fourth Annual Utah High School Essay Contest commemorating the International Year of Family Farming. Utah Valley University and the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF) established this tradition of hosting a spring essay-writing workshop for high schools from the state of Utah on topics defined each year by the United Nations. This year's theme is of a special importance for our people with its emphasis on family farming. Family farms helped Utah citizens create a strong and vibrant economy which is one of the leading economies in the nation.

As a focal point for the Mountain Partnership at UVU I am pleased to help sustain efforts of UIMF and the organizing committee of the workshop to transform this annual gathering in a vehicle to raise future leaders in the promotion of the sustainable mountain agenda in the state of Utah and globally.

I wish you great success with your event,

With regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'R. Butler' with a horizontal line underneath.

Rusty Butler, Ph.D.,
Focal Point for the Mountain Partnership
Associate Vice President for International Affairs and Diplomacy
Utah Valley University