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STATEMENT
DURING ROUND TABLE
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION
UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY
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Women in Agriculture

International Women's Day is a day to reflect on women and the change that they capable of leading in the world we live in. Women are truly incredible and too often the job of being a mother and homemaker goes without recognition, even from the children they raise. Another job that tends to go unnoticed is farming.

Agriculture is, arguably, one of the most important pursuits in today's world as it has been in the past. Throughout the world there are women who are heavily involved in agriculture. Working in the fields and/or livestock is a normal day for millions of women. The stereotype of women not being very involved in labor intensive work is very much an uneducated one. To bring awareness to women who are involved in agricultural pursuits there are many projects that are gaining popularity by bringing these women into the fore front of social media. *FarmHer* and *The Female Farmer Project* are just two examples of attempts to bring images of these women into the lime light and to show the world how hard they work to keep up their livelihood.

Women's ability to juggle work and family is truly incredible. Often women carry the responsibility either providing all or helping to provide financial support for their children along with being available to raise them and guide them through their early years, teaching those lessons that can only be learned from an involved parent. We cannot forget that it is the mothers in this world that raise the future leaders of our world. The mothers influence on their children is strong, so we must support the mothers in this world so that they can raise their children to the best of their ability to ensure the future of our world.

Women are not the delicate flowers to which they commonly referred to, they are durable and capable of much. This is a time to recognize people, women in particular, for more than just their gender but for their abilities and talents that could greatly contribute to not only to their life but the lives around them.