

## First Day in New York City for the 63rd Commission on the Status of Women



*Group photo in front of the U.N.*

On Sunday March 17, 2018, some of my colleagues and I arrived very early in the morning into New York City after taking a red-eye flight through the night from Salt Lake City, Utah. Upon arrival into the city, we were given the opportunity to meet up with our mentor/professor, Dr. Baktybek Abdrisaev, and some other colleagues to put out luggage away and explore part of the city. Together as a group we first found a place to grab some breakfast and then continued to walk around the United Nations' grounds and see all of the Permanent Mission buildings. We also visited the Trump towers and took a lot of pictures. After our professor left us on our own to explore the city before we met with the entire group, my colleagues Hannah Bieker, Michael Hinatsu, Ezra Pugliano and myself took the subway to Times Square to do some sight seeing and kill time. It was quite a hassle trying to maneuver our way through the city due to the slightly inconvenient half-marathon going on that blocked many of the roads. Nonetheless it was a fun adventure and provided us with some engaged learning experiences as well.

After our Times Square adventure, we headed back to Grand Central Station to meet up with the entire group and go over the week's agenda. We then continued to tour the U.N. grounds once again with everyone and talked about where we would meet the following morning. We took

more group photos, had a couple of laughs, and then were once again released to go check into Airbnbs/hotels and do whatever we pleased for the remainder of the day. After checking into our Airbnb and taking a quick nap a group of us went downtown to a fun restaurant and then came home and prepared for a good night's sleep for the big day and week ahead of us.



*Group photo in front of The Trump World Tower*

It was a good experience to be able to experience New York and have a relaxing day before the week full of attending U.N. and CSW63 events. I am very grateful to be a student at Utah Valley University (UVU) and a member of the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF) to be

able to travel to New York City and advocate for Sustainable Mountain Development and mountain women at the 63rd Commission on the Status of Women.

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