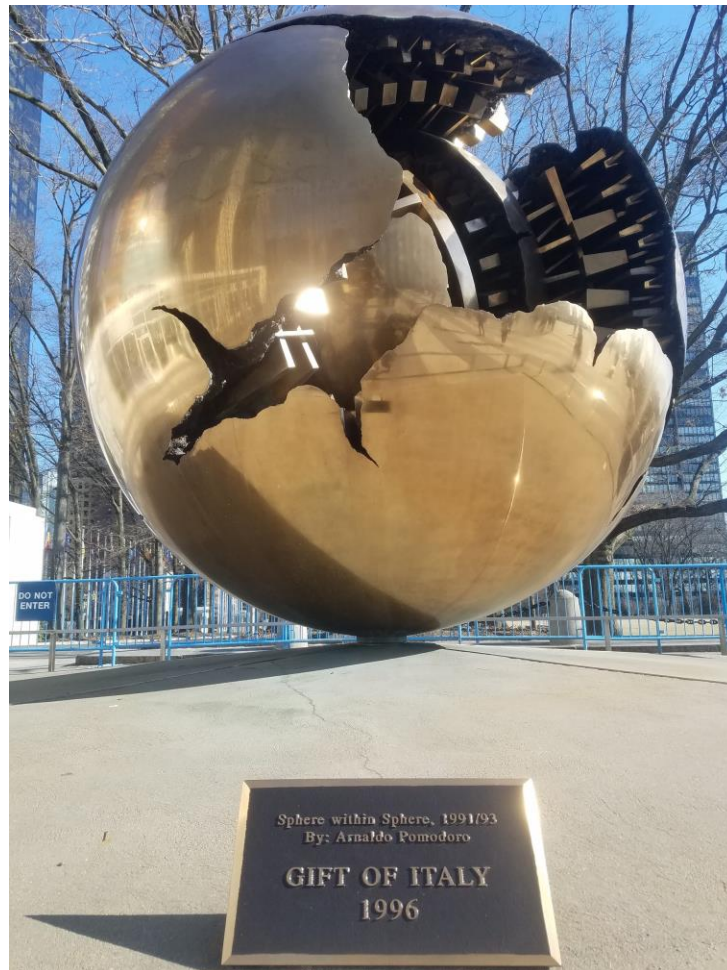


My introduction to CSW63 activities

As a delegation of UIMF Utah Valley University students, we arrived early Monday morning, March 18, at the United Nations Pass and Identification Unit to receive individual credentials as representatives of the organization Russian Academy of Natural Sciences for the 63rd Session of the Commission of the Status of Women (CSW63). As approaching the entrance of the United Nations Headquarters, our groups location was documented through the photography of our media specialist Hailee Hodgson.



Gift of Italy by: Arnaldo Pomodoro at the United Nations Headquarters (photographed by Laila Mitchell)

After experiencing a thorough security check, we had taken our first steps in the United Nations Headquarters. Touring the United Nations Headquarters we were able to view the displayed gifts of other nations as well as other forms of art. There were also various side events focused on the empowerment of women that were available for us to attend. During lunch we

were able to overview preparations for the parallel event we will be participating in tomorrow at the Church Center of the United Nations.



Left to right: Pauline Tzuang, Dr. Antoinette Ellis-Williams, Dr. Baktybek Adbrisaev, Hsin Chin Shih, and Dr. Ali Mazzara (photographed by Laila Mitchell)

After lunch, we headed over to the Salvation Army Auditorium to attend the parallel event, “Recreating a Healthier Environment for Empowering Women and Girls.” This event was hosted by Wendy Jyang and Utah China F.I.S.H.D.&C. and we were able to have the privilege to listen to various speakers, including our own professor Baktybek Adbrisaev who is also a Former Ambassador of the Kyrgyz Republic to the USA and Canada.

The others included, Hsin Chin Shih, a CEO of Jieh Huey Welfare & Charity Foundation; Dr. Antoinette Ellis-Williams, Chair, Women’s and Gender Studies, New Jersey City University; Pauline Tzuang, Charter President, Zonta Club of Taipei Cosmo 106-2018, Member, Translation Committee, Zonta international; Dr. Ali Mazzara, the Director of Educational Programs, Office of Global Affairs and The State University of New York.



Baktybek Adbrisaev addressing the engaged learning model (photographed by Laila Mitchell)

They all shared personal experiences of women empowerment and their personal efforts towards improving various environments to increase the outreach to women and girls. In conclusion of the parallel event, we had the opportunity to interact with the speakers by taking pictures and participate in engaged learning.

Laila Mitchell, UIMF member