

My day 3 at CSW63: speaking at parallel event

On the third day of our visit to CSW63, we started by gathering at the second floor of the Church Center for the United Nations to host our parallel event, titled: “Student engaged learning to empowering mountain women and girls.” We arrived there at 8:00AM and started preparing the room by checking the projector, connecting laptops to it, checking sound system quality, etc.



UVU speakers' panel at CSW63

At 8:30AM Michael Hinatsu, Vice President of UIMF and moderator of the parallel event, started our panel by introducing our organization, the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF). He also expressed gratitude to the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences and Utah-China Friendship Improvement Sharing Hands Development & Commerce, two non-governmental organizations registered with Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, for co-sponsoring the event. He then introduced Dr. Lago, CIO/Vice-Rector for Global Engagement at Utah Valley University (UVU) and Taylor Bell, newly-elected UVU Student Body President. After their presentations,

Mr. Hinatsu spoke about his research on empowering mountain women and girls, along with statistical facts.

After that, Mr. Hinatsu introduced me to the audience and I had the great opportunity to speak about the advocacy of engaged learning and how it exposed me to the activity of the United Nations with a focus on sustainable mountain development. It was a successful step that I have done, which will help me and add a lot of activities and experiences to my curriculum vitae.

After my presentation, ten other students followed me and made their presentations. So far, it was an excellent opportunity for all of us for being able to visit the United Nations and to host this panel.



Parallel event of the NGO Big Ocean women

After that we have attended the parallel event hosted by the NGO Big Ocean at the tenth floor of the Church Center for the United Nations at 2:30PM. It was titled: "The first line of defense:

Attachment and maternal economies as the ultimate social protection system.” The speakers talked about the value of the family as well as women who are raising the new generation. The first and the second speakers were from Sweden and they have talked about the issues that exist in their country concerning raising a child. The Swedish society has a law that required its citizens to take care of other citizens’ children, and others will take care of yours. So, that law would in some ways take you away from your children. They also explained how important it is to be close to the children and have a good relationship with them, especially emotionally. They also talked about the rise of mental health disease among children in Sweden due to the gap in relationship between mothers and their children.



UIMF members during the CSW Regional Caucus on Europe and North America

Then we went to another gathering, the CSW Regional Caucus on Europe and North America. This event was different from the previous one since we were put in groups and tried to come up with finding the best solution to have additional gender conferences in one place instead of dividing into many groups around the world. So, my group and I were talking like everyone else

in the room trying to come up with such a solution. We eventually agreed that education the youth as well as building bridges between different societies and different religions would help to achieve the goal. By the end of the time, each group has shared their thoughts and opinions. After that, everyone went to their place to rest after an amazing day, but by 7:30PM, we met again at the Grand Central Station to have our dinner there and the we walked around New York City.

Abdulrahman Alghanmi, UIMF member