

Hosting Mr. Richard Jordan during class on international organizations



On Tuesday the 9th of April, I was able to hear Mr. Richard Jordan who is the Dean of UN Non-governmental representatives in New York. I heard him during our international relations class here on campus.

Jordan's being here on campus was planned and executed by Joel Frost, President of the Foreign Affairs club at Utah Valley University. I was part of the team that worked alongside Joel. This lecture was only one of many different events that Joel planned for the three days that Jordan was in Utah. Joel worked on advertising the event effectively, community engagement and outreach, and held guide question and answer sessions with Jordan. Being able to work for Joel was a privilege and has helped me hone my own leadership skills.

This lecture that Richard Jordan gave, during his second day on campus, was tailored to the needs of the class. The lecture fit in perfectly in our class discussion of international organizations and the different organs of the United Nations. Some of the information was similar to lectures given the previous day, but it was clear that Jordan had spent a significant amount of time changing for the needs of our class.

There is perhaps no one better suited to lead this discussion than Richard Jordan himself. Jordan has an incredible amount of experience in the UN and has spent more hours at the New York Headquarters than anyone else.

Jordan's passion for higher learning and politics is what made this lecture so engaging. He was able to give us information on what a "typical" day at the UN looks like, if such thing even exists. He is able to sit in on meetings and even offer some of his own opinions.

One thing that struck me was the diversity of opinions and ideas at the UN. The importance of the UN – as an international means of peace – cannot be understated. This lecture reaffirmed this idea and Jordan's ideas merit further consideration.

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