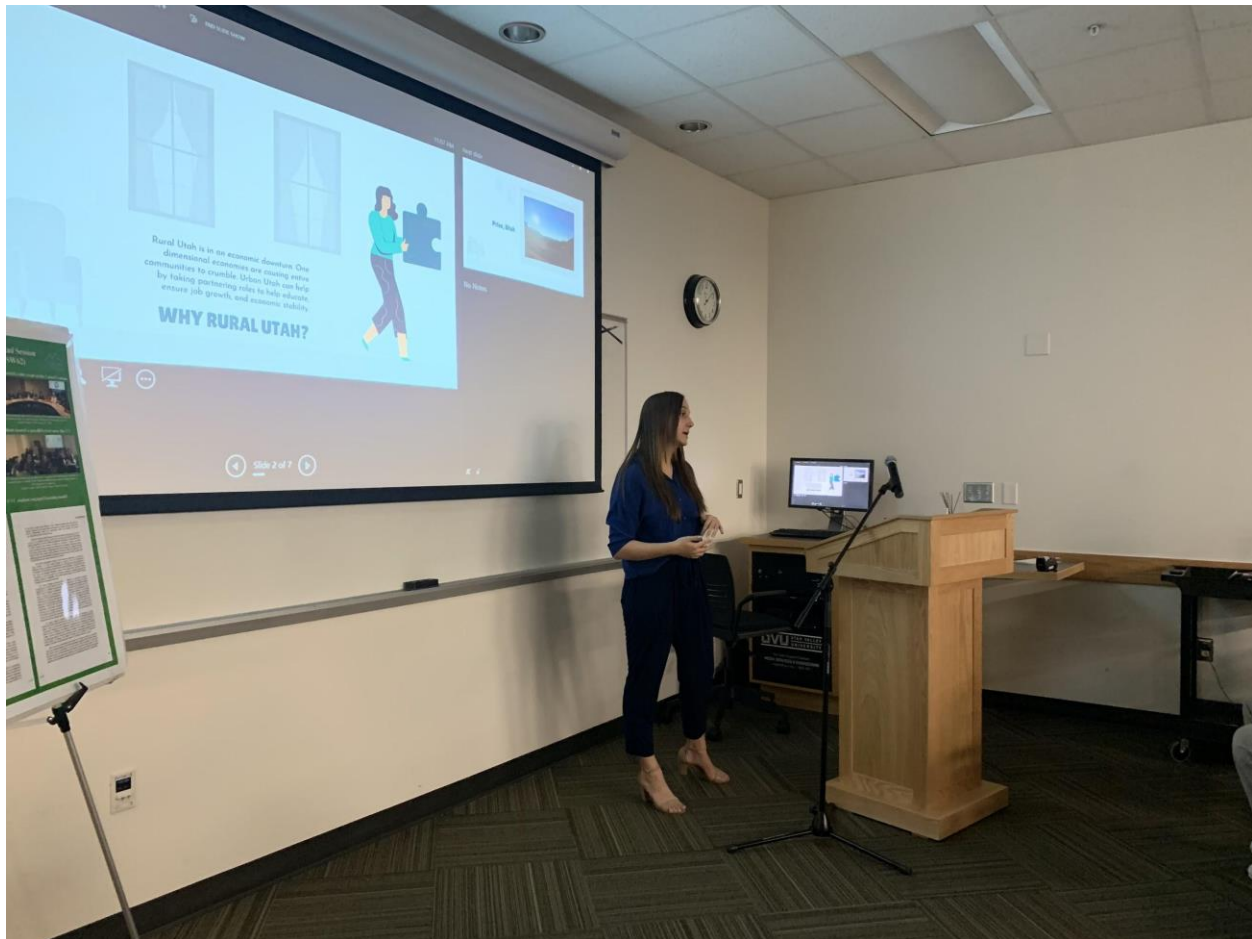


## **Enlightenment to Rural Utah & mindfulness of the cause**



*Lacey Meyer presenting her speech about Rural Utah and the 4 primary ways to be involved for the cause.*

In this essay I will conclude of things and topics that were discussed at the Engaging Rural Utah seminar at UVU. There were multiple presenters and they all talked roughly about the same topic and idea. These students who spoke are engaged in politics and are well aware of issues facing the nation and the state of Utah specifically. I thought it was very interesting and in my personal opinion it's so important to be aware of what's happening politically and even more so what's occurring in our state. State issues are so important because we can make a difference more rather than compared to the use of federal and higher supported government in D.C.

For my first point Lacey Meyer was one of the speakers and she discussed rural Utah and how it needs assistance. She discussed how rural America and Utah is a downturn and basing off a system of energy. For example, oil, gas, and coal, these resources were discussed in her presentation. Another point she touched on was, how we as Utah's can partner with this issue and grow the economy. She also discussed how the price is struggling economically, triggering there might be issues there economically needing help. She discussed these main issues and

mainly wanted us as a younger future generation to see how we can assist the state and help rural Utah specifically.

Another point to raise and bring into conversation that Lacey Meyer brought forth was, the 4 primary ways to assist and help this issue at hand. Four main points being; economy, partnering, education, and empowerment. These 4 primary points are important to grow rural Utah and to help the state become the best it can possibly be. She also discussed some factors within these 4 main points. One being, moving forward we as Utah's need to understand the complexities that are needed. And the issues that are raised need to be addressed and situated. Another topic being, we need a better system of community between the 2. So, the communication is important and critical in many ways. Thirdly, how there are different issues in rural Utah and we need to come to terms with that. In ending she finished by discussed and bringing to point that we need to be informed and educated about the issues of rural Utah. Although you may not be able to help primarily you can still be educated about the issues and raise concerns in communities. This being one of the best ways to bring forth issues of what might be happening in rural Utah and addressing that.

Thirdly, the main issue and point to bring into comparison would be to raise awareness of mount communities. In the previous paragraph I discussed how Lacey brought forth raising awareness. Overall, it's critical and important to just be educated and informed retaining the issues that are occurring. In the seminar she discussed how you don't have to be a primary helper although you do need to assist by being educated. A slightly off topic personal experience that I feel ties to this and my understanding of being educated; when I was in high school the presidential election of 2016 was approaching, and I knew nothing about the policies of those who were running. I eventually decided it was ridiculous as to what is happening and where my opinions were leading. I would listen to my teachers and my classmates and just believed what they believed. Although I later realized it's so important to know for yourself and become educated; so, I did. Throughout these past few years of becoming educated I've been able to volunteer as an intern for the Republican Party in Salt Lake. And now I'm completely invested in the understanding of politics and that's what I desire to do for a job one day. Overall, I am agreeing with Lacey about how it's so important to be educated on issues in the world, nation, and within our own state. We can make a difference and it's important to understand that and to work on the ideals of becoming more aware and more educated so we can assist in future endeavors.

Being involved and through understanding and change we can make a difference. In the seminar a few main points about this were discussed. One being how we can allow students and faculty to come together and find outcomes. Embracing each other and seeing through differences and being able to justify and help in those aspects. Another point being, how a voice is crucial in conversations. It's so important to be educated and be aware of what's happening

and being able to have an educated and well put together voice in serious, high critical situations is important. Another thing being how we can relate to climate and understand climate issues we're facing. Overall, it's important to be educated and aware of what's happening and know how to at least help.



*Students, professors, and academic persons engaging in the effort of “Rural Utah” by attending speeches regarding “Rural Utah”.*

In conclusion, these main points are crucial and important because with knowing these 4 main points with, economy, partnering, education, and empowerment. These 4 main points bring a need to the cause. Bringing a desire as well to bring people into the awareness of being involved and knowing what needs to occur to make a change. Price and economy are also struggling and it's important that we can make a change in those aspects. Future generational voices are needed and can bring aspects into the future conversations. Since the next generation will be making a change it's important to be educated, think critically, change the ideals and ways of how a difference can and must be made and altered.

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