

Promoting the Utah International Mountain Forum Agenda During the 2020 Spring Semester Club Rush



(From L to R) Samuel Elzinga, Megan Davis, Abdulrahman Alghanmi; UIMF Members promoting Mountain Sustainability and UIMF, the Foreign Affairs Club, and Rotaract

On January 14th and 15th, Utah Valley University's (UVU) club department hosted its semi-annual Club Rush Event. With over 150 clubs on campus, the diversity of student interest on campus continued to steadily increase with the Spring 2020 semester event. As a member of the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), the Foreign Affairs club, and Rotaract club at UVU, I had the opportunity to sit at the table during Club Rush and meet with my peers. If students were interested in our clubs or

had questions they were quickly answered by any of the club members at the table. Since UVU has a vast population of over 40,000 students, I was able to meet with a great deal of different students. A highlight of tabling at these events is getting to share my experience at the 63rd Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63) at the United Nations (U.N.) in March 2019. Not only did I get to share my personal experiences being involved with these clubs, meeting with foreign dignitaries and ambassadors, and presenting at CSW63, but I also promoted the agenda of UIMF, mountain sustainability and mountain targets 6.6, 15.1, and 15.4, to new faces.

This club rush was a new experience for me due to the fact that I wasn't involved with UIMF during the fall 2019 semester. I just returned home from spending 4 months in Thailand teaching English. I had the opportunity to visit many different mountainous people and villages while there and I now have new knowledge and experience to apply to my work I do with UIMF. I was really involved with the coalition of clubs under UIMF the past school year so it was really enjoyable to be able to jump back into it after taking a semester break.

At the conclusion of this event, I can confidently say that it went very well for our clubs per usual. This event is very important for our clubs to participate in so we can get the necessary funding for the semester. By participating in the Club Rush event, it allows UIMF to bring foreign dignitaries and ambassadors onto campus, host events, and make the annual trip the Commission on the Status of Women at the U.N. It allows us to be able to indulge in the Engaged Learning model that this university has based its very core foundation on. Through our joint collaboration and hard work by getting club

members involved we were able to promote and raise awareness to UIMF and SMD goals. Therefore, creating a good learning experience for all party members involved.

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