

THE SIGNIFICANT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN UTAH AND MOROCCO



Panel of presenters about Utah Morocco partnership

March 10, 2020 brought together students, professionals and experts to learn about and discuss the relationship between the State of Utah and the African nation Morocco at Utah Valley University in Orem, Utah. Much was discussed about success, challenges and progress between the two nations, with a large focus on the United States military and the Utah National Guard. Other aspects such as the strengths of the Moroccan people, Moroccan culture and significant history pertaining to the event was discussed as well. I personally am very familiar with Eastern Asian relations and know very little about African nations and relations. For that reason, I was able to learn very much about this event and am grateful for the preparation that went into preparation.

The guests that we welcomed were Mrs. Fatima Taki representing the Department of Defense, Honorary Consul Keith Martin, Retired General Jefferson Burton, and Lieutenant-Colonel Dustin Carroll. They all brought their own perspectives and global experiences in their different fields to help raise our awareness of these situations and the solutions that have already been found. They all spoke about the strong relationship that Utah maintains with Morocco, the progress it made up to the present and what the future will look like for this partnership, the State

Partnership Program, and for the Moroccan people. Aside from military alliances, another large part of the discussion took place over how both Utah and Morocco, both largely composed of mountain communities, can continue to teach and learn from each other methods of sustainable development for mountain people.



UVU Students and event planners with the honorable guests. Andrew Tschirki - Second from Right.

Lastly, this even exemplifies Utah Valley University's fantastic and dedicated students who arranged this event independently and made sure that everything ran well. The dedication the students showed exemplifies what it means to be an active, global citizen in this world: they network, associate, find those with experience to learn from those from the far reaches of the world, and share their own individual experience as well. This was a mutually beneficial meeting for all parties involved and will be remembered by all who participated.

Andrew Tschirki, UVU student