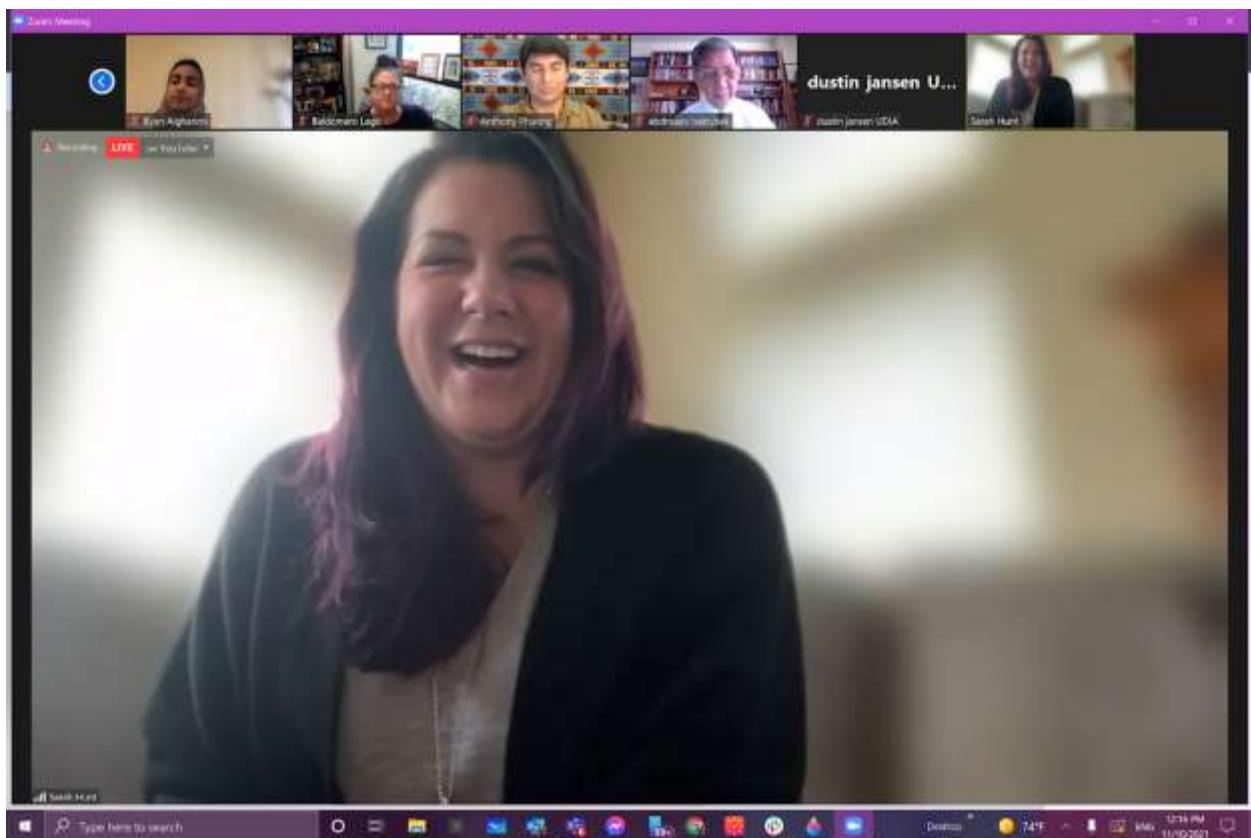


Roundtable on Bear Ears

I really enjoyed listening to the speakers as they had passion about what they were talking about and in that they were interesting and were able to capture my attention during the roundtable on Bears Ears at Utah Valley University on November 10, 2021. I really liked listening to Ms. Hunt as she explained the concern as to why there is a focus on this land.



Sarah Hunt is renowned for her commentary on environmental law and provided the panel with an environmentalism and public policy perspective on Bears Ears.

In a governmental sense and setting aside the religious and sacredness of it for the natives, there is uranium and other natural resources in it. I was interested in the fact that it is called a national monument and not a national park as is had over 1.8 million acres of land. She talked about how the Statue of Liberty is a

national monument because it does not span over a large amount of land and how Bears Ears is a large plot of land that should maybe be considered a national park.

I also found it interesting that the main argument within the government is not so much about how the land is managed but who manages it, does the federal government manage it and receive the money from it or should it be run by the state government. I personally do not have any experiences with this monument and have sadly never even heard of it before this assignment.

I think it is important that there is order in things that way things can be run smoothly, but I also think it is important to think about this land for more than its monetary and nationally beneficial value. This land is the land of the natives that has been used for centuries for gathering medical herbs, and a place of ritual. I personally find the way that these native lands have been treated as a huge disrespect and unfair to those who have had to give up sacred land. I think that this land should be kept as a monument or a sacred land to those who originally owned it since so much of what they had has already been taken from them. I would want people to respect me the same way I respect them and I don't see a benefit ever being large enough that we should be disgracing our fellow men here in the United States.

-Jace Harrison, Student at Utah Valley University