

## **Participating at the Fourth Utah Diplomatic Conference on International Trade Relations**

On March 21st, 2022, the Fourth Utah Diplomatic Conference on International Trade Relations was held at Utah Valley University (UVU). The theme of the conference was, “Lessons learned from Covid-19 and Ukraine: A Global Perspective.” The conference was split into three sessions: The General Session, four smaller simultaneous breakout sessions, and a networking session; all of which I was able to attend. According to Utah Governor Spencer Cox during his speech, this was the largest diplomatic gathering in the state since 2002.



*General Session of the Conference*

As President of the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), a coalition of student political organizations at Utah Valley University, and as a UVU Global Student Leadership Council Member, I was assigned as a diplomatic host to Group 2 of 4 which was composed of career diplomats from Hungary, Italy, Japan, Taiwan, Sri Lanka, and Uruguay. This same group participated in a panel discussion during the breakout session, discussing economic impacts and responses to COVID-19, as well as the situation around the Ukraine invasion as it applies to their respective countries.



*Panelists of Group 2 speak to the audience*



*Myself with Ms. Éva Dorogi, Trade Consul of Hungary*

During the networking session in the grande ballroom, I was able to meet with several representatives of Peru, as well as spend a 15 minute discussion with the Deputy Consul of Uruguay, Ms. Florella Prado. We discussed the UIMF, including our recent event with Ambassador Forsyth of the Organization of American States, and various topics about Uruguay.



*Myself with Ms. Florella Prado, Deputy Consul of Uruguay*

At a special luncheon with the ambassadors, I sat at a table that included several dignitaries from Mexico and was able to get acquainted with them and discuss several matters concerning the nation of Mexico.



*Left to Right: Francisco Xavier Tovar, Mexico Head of Economic Affairs in D.C.; Patricia Cortez, Vice Consul; José Borjón, Consul General of Mexico in SLC, UT; Myself.*



*A small acknowledgment of time on the council presented to me and other members at the lunch*



During the luncheon, myself and fellow UVU students were recognized for our contributions by the UVU Office for Global Engagement as members of the first Student Global Leadership Council in front of all the dignitaries and surprised with a token of that appreciation. As a result of this event, myself and other council members were also featured in the [seventh volume](#) of the UVU Global Engagement Newsletter.

**Mr. Dallas Karren, UIMF President**