

Introduction

Joshua Kooyman
President of the Sustainable Mountain
Club at UVU,

Greetings:

Dr. Baldomero Lago,
Chief International Officer at UVU

Presentation

Dr. Rusty Butler
Main Representative to the UN,
Russian Academy of Natural
Sciences

Student Speakers

Jokodu Jada (Winnie)

UVU Rotaract

Handen Torsak

Member of UVU Foreign Affairs

Speaker

Priyanka Prem Kumar
Research analyst – Sustainable
Food systems, AI for Rural, India

Presentation of FAO Certificates

Stephan Atkinson
President, UVU Foreign Affairs Club
Rachel Welker,
Vice President, UVU Foreign Affairs
Club

Concluding remarks

Alitha Thompson,
President of UIMF

About International Mountain Day

International Mountain Day (IMD) is celebrated annually to promote awareness for mountain communities around the globe. December 11th was officially declared as International Mountain Day by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 57/245 in December 2002. The Mountain Partnership under the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO-UN) is the United Nations voluntary alliance to work together for mountain peoples and environments.

UIMF Activities and Contribution to IMDs: International Mountain Day has been celebrated at Utah Valley University (UVU) every year since 2010 by members of the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), a coalition of student clubs at UVU (see: www.uvu.edu/utahimf). UIMF celebrates IMDs as a student engaged learning (SEL) model, where students work inclusively as a group to solve real-world issues with faculty serving as a mentor. Through SEL, students spearhead all IMD activities: raising funds for the event, designing agenda, providing protocol, logistics, etc. For the last 13 years, UVU has been the only academic institution in North America to celebrate IMD on an annual basis.

For more information on our mission, advocacy efforts, and UN recognition:

www.uvu.edu/utahimf

Sponsored By



*Utah International
Mountain Forums
13th International
Mountain Day Celebration*

Women Move Mountains

December 6, 2022

10 am – 11:15 am

UVU LA 116

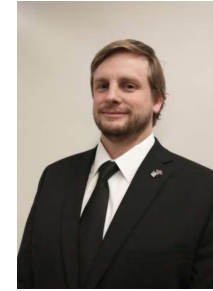




Joshua Kooyman is the President of the Sustainable Mountain Club at UVU. He is studying National Security studies at Utah Valley University with a double minoring in Spanish translation/interpreting and French, where he also works as a Scripting Manager for the UVU podcast "In the Interest of National Security."



Winnie Jada is an international student studying Global Politics at UVU. She is a member of the "Immigrant and Refugee Student Union". Upon graduation, she hopes to go to law school while simultaneously working to promote gender equality in South Sudan.



Stephan is the president of the Foreign Affairs club at UVU. Currently, Stephan is working towards his bachelor's degree in political science with aspirations to work as an ambassador for the State Department.



Dr. Lago is the Chief International Officer for Utah Valley University, responsible for UVU's global and intercultural academic initiatives. In 2022, he organized the first UN SDG Academic Forum "Why it Matters."



Handen Torsak was born and raised in Provo, UT. He attended Provo High and graduated with his associate's a few weeks before he graduated high school. Following high school, he served a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in both the Kentucky Louisville and the Czech/Slovak Mission, the majority of that time living in Slovakia. He is currently a Junior at UVU studying Political Science.



Rachel Welker is the Vice President of the Foreign Affairs Club at UVU. She is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Political Science with an emphasis in Global Politics and a minor in National Security Studies.



Dr. Rusty Butler is the UN ECOSOC representative for the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences (an NGO in General Consultative status). He served as the Honorary Consul General of the Russian Federation in Utah (2000-2016) and as Associate Vice President of International Affairs & Diplomacy at Utah Valley University until retiring in 2016.



Priyanka Prem Kumar is a research analyst for improving food security and sustainable food systems (SDG 2.4) for smallholder farmers especially women in the mountainous region. Her research "Assessment of Sustainable Food Systems in Mountain Regions of India Through Climate Smart Agriculture During Covid-19 Pandemic: The Case Study of AI for Rural has been published in the Proceedings of the UN International Academic Conference on SDGs "Why It Matters".



Alitha Thompson is President of Utah International Mountain Forum, a coalition of student clubs at UVU. She is a senior studying Global politics with a minor in Chinese studies. She is non-traditional student, balancing her education with her 5 children