

Our Preparations Day at CSW67

On March 5, 2023 A Team of UVU UIMF Club Members worked together as a group to complete write-ups.

My name is Maren Ostlund, and I am a student of Social Work, Peace and Justice Studies, and Systems Thinking. During my time at UVU and in the Peace and Justice Program I have cultivated a special interest in U.N Sustainable Development Goals, and in the country Armenia. I am grateful for my opportunity to attend the CSW and learn from the commission.

On 03/04/2023-03/4/2023 we traveled to New York to begin our participation in the U.N commission on the Status of Women. Shortly after my group arrived we went to the U.N Pass and Identification Office to receive our ground passes.



The travel group I was with included Smith Griggs, Chandler Davis, and Nikki Smith. Smith and I served as Social Impact Fellows together at UVUs Center for Social Impact, where I was able to see his dedication and ingenuity firsthand. Nikki has contributed many valuable insights from her own research in class. Chandler has contributed much to the delegation through his persistence and clarity of thought.

I was impressed with Chandler's diplomacy as he spent the time in line making friends with the others waiting to get their passes. He and our leader Alitha assisted them to find which papers to present. They chatted with them about what they are looking forward to during this event and their excitement was contagious.

I was able to help meet the needs of my group members as I facilitated communication between our group and the trip leader. I helped coordinate travel and helped to ensure that we arrived to our meet up location, which enabled us to go receive our passes.

During the time of the conference I hope to enrich my knowledge of the lived experience of women and girls, especially in regards to the Sustainable Development Goals. I aim to better understand the processes of the United Nations as it undergoes the process of research, report, and resolution as a result of the conference. My overall career goals include Social Impact Consulting through a Systems Thinking lens, and I hope to apply my training in these things to the topics discussed, as well as broaden my network of dedicated individuals to provide mentorship in analysis of social issues.

At one of the places I ate a meal today, a sign on the wall said "*Dinner is better when we eat together*" and this sentiment has been the feeling of the trip so far. Travel

is better when we do it together. Planning is better when we do it together. Discussion is better when we do it together. Impact is better when we do it together.

Maren- Machel Ostlund UIMF Delegation Member