## Day 1 at CSW67: Hosting a Parallel Event

On Monday, March 6th we attended our first day at the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women. We woke up early this morning to get ready for the event. I carried pamphlets, stress balls, and brochures to hand out to the people we met. We saw them raise the flags in front of the UN and took group pictures before entering. After going through security, I left went to Staples with our technical team to print the finalized version of our parallel event script.



UVU students arrive at the UN HQ

Our first event was a tour of the UN library followed by a presentation by the UVU global engagement office. I loved seeing the index system at the library. Our next event was with the Kyrgyz ambassador to the UN. She said she was proud of the involvement we had as students. The ambassador was very elegant and poised. I was happy to see a women in politics at the UN, more specifically, it was inspiring to see a mother in sucha prominent position in a global platform.



UN library tour; in front of the index cards

In the afternoon we had our parallel event. The parallel event was on mountain women and student-engaged learning. We arrived at the building and took the small elevators to the eighth floor. The event before ours was just concluding so we had to wait in the hallway until they were finished. I helped move chairs and set up the technology for the event. We also had to position the camera, so the speakers were centered and in front of the microphone.



The Parallel Event

Giving my speech at the UN today was a very special experience which I will remember for the rest of my life. I enjoyed speaking about women, in front of women, who are here to support and advocate for each other. I was nervous to speak in front of people, but having rehearsed multiple times I was able to confidently read my speech. In the evening we walked around to find a place to eat dinner and took a train from Grand Central station back to our Airbnb.



View of NYC after dinner

Samantha Davis (UIMF Delegation Member)