

UIMF Day 0 at CSW67 and Preparatory activities

On March 4 - 5, 2023 A Team of Utah Valley University UIMF Club Members worked together as a group to complete travel and write-ups.

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is an annual event organized by the United Nations (UN) to discuss and promote gender equality and women's empowerment around the world. The event is held at the UN headquarters in New York City and typically takes place in March.

The CSW was established in 1946, shortly after the founding of the UN, and is now one of the UN's longest-running commissions. It is a global policy-making body that works to promote women's rights and gender equality, as well as to eliminate discrimination against women.

Each year, the CSW brings together representatives from governments, civil society organizations, and UN agencies to discuss and review progress made in advancing women's rights and gender equality. The event also provides a platform for sharing best practices and exchanging ideas on how to further advance the rights of women and girls. The CSW focuses on a different theme each year, which guides the discussions and debates that take place during the event. Recent themes have included "Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development" (2021), "Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls" (2020), and "Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls" (2018).

The CSW is an important event for promoting gender equality and women's empowerment around the world. By bringing together representatives from a variety of organizations and countries, the event provides a platform for sharing knowledge and experiences, and for promoting global cooperation in advancing the rights of women and girls.



The CSW 67 Logo

On the way to CSW 67 in New York City, a few members of the Utah International Mountain started the journey on the train starting at Utah Valley University Station. Taking the train is a more sustainable transportation option than driving, as it uses fewer resources and produces fewer emissions. Encouraging sustainable transportation options like trains can help reduce Utah's overall carbon footprint and promote a more sustainable future. Overall, taking the train in Utah can have a positive impact on air quality by reducing vehicle emissions, encouraging public transportation, and promoting sustainable transportation options.



(L to R) Stephan, Josh, Hendrix, Handen

The trip to UN CSW67 was a huge success from the moment we arrived at Salt Lake City's airport. UIMF members worked together from the beginning. Stephan, Handen and Hendrix, Joshua and Chance, Winnie, and I met at the terminal. We flew to LAX for our layover. We reviewed our speeches on the flight and got ready for tomorrow's event, "Empowering Mountain Women Through Inclusive Student Engaged Learning

Educational Initiative". We took some time to rest, even though our flight from LAX-JFK was slightly delayed.



Delegation members just arrived to New York

UIMF members were then able to pick up their UN passes for the following week. Tristin and Alitha worked tirelessly to get me New York pizza, even though it was difficult to unlock the first Airbnb. to make us feel comfortable in our second Airbnb. I was able to open the doors for the first Airbnb, and helped others with luggage collection.



UIMF Team members getting their U.N. pass

It was tiring and exhausting, but I am now more excited to give my speech tomorrow and participate in the many other great events that will be taking place during the conference. My participation in UN CSW67 will allow me to connect with leaders around the globe, make an impact through the speech I gave, keep a notebook of lessons learned for when I return home, and build relationships with fellow UIMF members.

Stephan Atkinson: Foreign Affairs President