

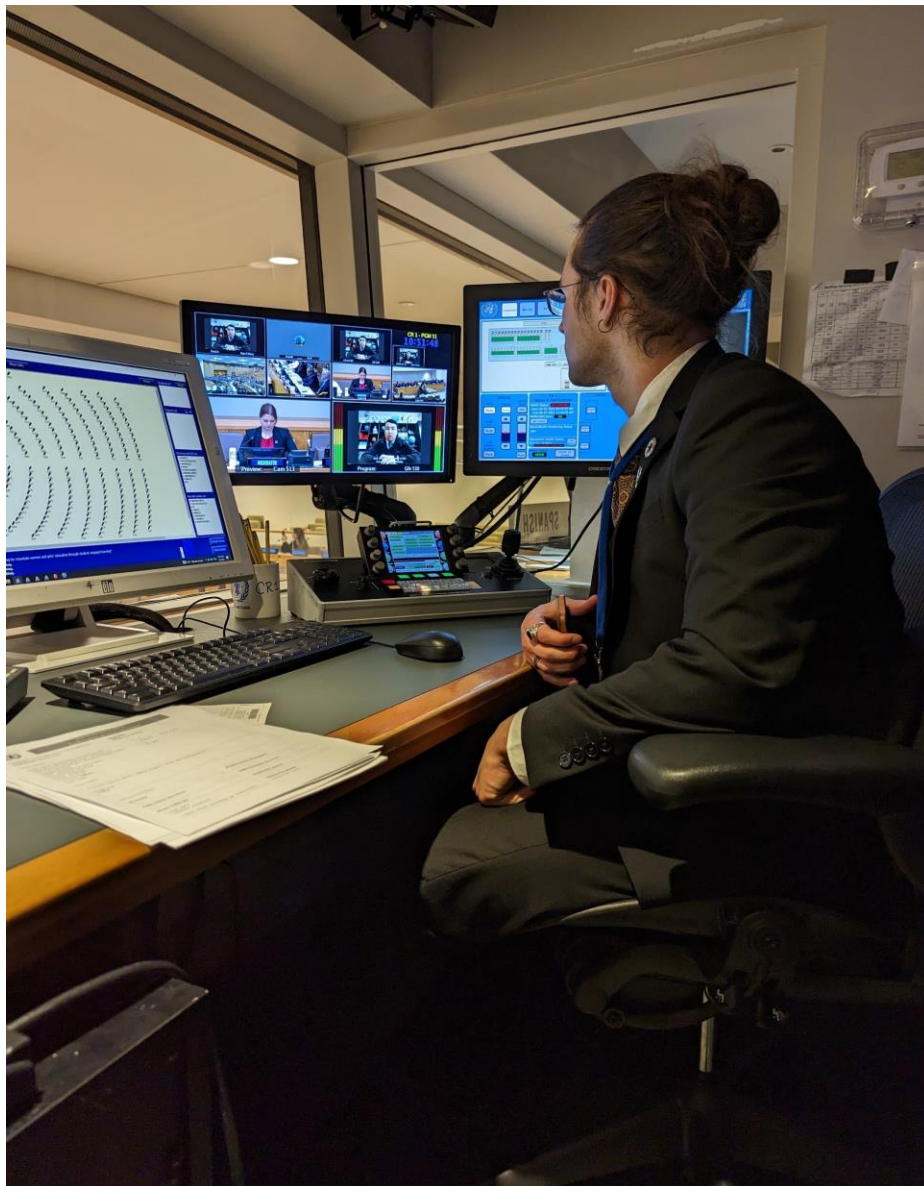
My contribution to the side event on mountain women at CSW67

On March 6th - 8th, Utah Valley University (UVU) Rotaractors like myself traveled to the United Nations to participate at the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67) and present there in a parallel event. Rotaract is a student club that works with Rotary International to provide students service opportunities in their community. As a student club Rotaract provides opportunities for students like me to be involved in different activities through a Student Engaged Learning (SEL) model. SEL places focus on providing students hands-on experience in their field of study, and makes my education feel more practical since I can see how I may apply it after graduating. UVU Rotaract is a member of the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), a coalition of student clubs at UVU which advocates for sustainable mountain development in the State of Utah and globally.



A photo of the UVU Rotaractors (including Hendrix Bailey) with the President of the United Nations General Assembly, Ambassador Csaba Korosi

Wednesday was the final day of our trip to New York for CSW67. We started the day by meeting the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Ambassador Csaba Korosi at his office thanks to Dr. Rusty Butler, one of the mentors of our student delegation. President of General Assembly was very well spoken, and it was an honor to meet someone so high ranking in the United Nations. He then took us on a small tour of the UN and allowed us to go down to where the green podium of the United Nations was. Very few people get to go there, and it was an amazing experience to be so close to a global seat of power.



Hendrix Bailey working the video and sound for the side event

We then went and helped the Permanent Mission of the Kyrgyz Republic to host their side panel event; and they put me in charge of the technical issues for the event. I ran the cameras and sound from a booth above the event. I have never used these things before, but I decided to step up to the task and do the best that I could do. It all went very well, and the Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ambassador Aida Kasymalieva was very happy with our work.

Following this event, we were invited by a classmate of Professor Pang to attend a United Nations Security Council meeting. This was an amazing thing to get to do, because students like ourselves are almost never allowed in such a place. Following this we went to the Permanent Mission of the United States to the United Nations where we talked with Ambassador Richard Mills, and Counselor of the Permanent Mission, Mr. Ngoyi Ngoyi, former student at UVU of Dr. Baktybek Abdrisaev. I asked Mr. Ngoyi what he thinks makes a good foreign service officer, and he gave me a good explanation for what he believes our country needs.



Hendrix Bailey (second from right) and UVU Rotaractors with the Permanent Representative of South Sudan to the United Nations, H.E. Mr. Akuei Bona Malwal

Following this meeting, me and a few of my other fellow students went to the Permanent Mission of South Sudan and met Permanent Representative of South Sudan to the UN, H.E. Mr. Akuei Bona Malwal. He was very friendly and answered any questions that we had for him. We then finished the day by going to the UN symphony.

To summarize this trip, it was better than anything I could have imagined. It gave me a great perspective on how the international community interacts with each other, and it also gave me motivation to pursue my own goals in government. This trip has helped me grow into a better student, and I'm grateful for the opportunity.

Hendrix Bailey, UVU Rotaractor