

UVU Rotaract UN Adventure March 6-9, 2023





Rotaractors attend the opening ceremonies for the UN 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women on March 6th, 2023



Rotaractors prepared by ensuring videos were loaded, speeches were perfected and re-read, and equipment was ready for the Parallel Event on March 6th, 2023



The Parallel Event on March 6th, 2023 was well attended with people from China, India, Pakistan and other non-government organizations who were interested in how Rotary and students can work in sustainable development advocacy efforts.



Rotaract President Tristin Juarez-Smith opens up the Parallel Event by introducing Rotary and Rotaract, how the student-engaged learning model works, and why it's important to empowering women and girls in mountain communities.



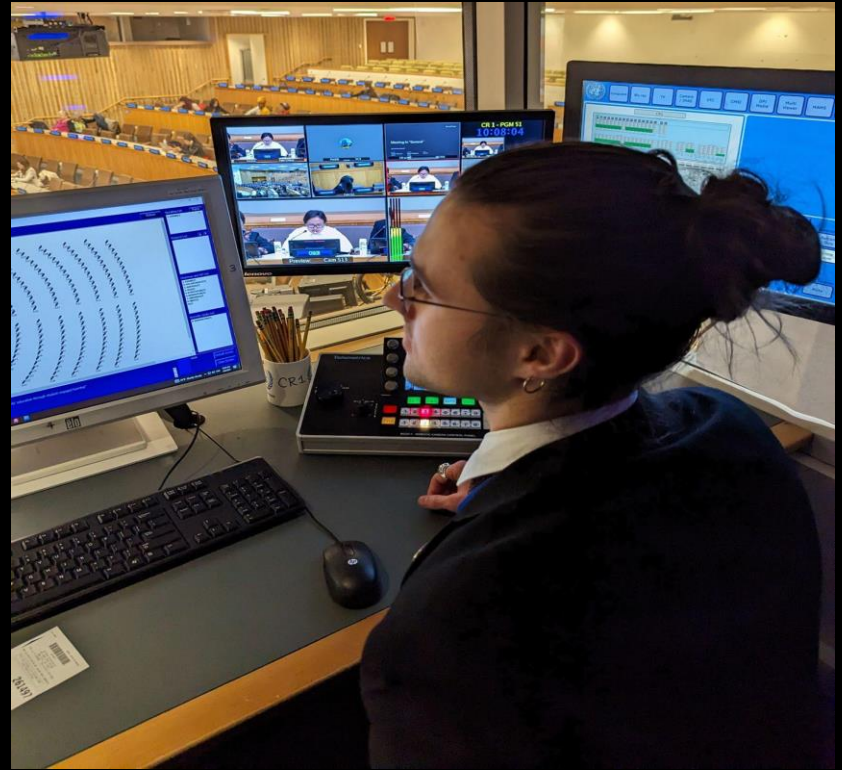
Stephanie Velasco, Utah Rotary District's *President Elect of Midvalley Club and Incoming General Secretary for Big West Rotaract 2023-2027* discussed Rotary's seven initiatives and how Utah Rotary has worked on a global level to promote a Zero-polio world, a cleaner environment and build a network of like-minded individuals who become partners and friends.



Afterwards, Stephanie Velasco presented UVU Rotaractors with Rotary Internationals' Challenge Coins to find good within the world.



Rotaract President Tristin Juarez-Smith, UIMF President Alitha Thompson, and Rotaractors Nikki Smith, Sami Davis, Rachel Welker prepare scripts and presentations for the Side Event on March 8th, 2023



Rotaractor Hendrix Bailey is ready to assist with video and sound during the Side Event on March 8th, 2023



Rotaractors test the sound and visual in preparation of the Side Event.



Permanent Mission
of the Kyrgyz Republic
to the United Nations

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Moderator: **Alitha Thompson**, President, Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), a coalition of student clubs at Utah Valley University (UVU), Utah, United States.

Opening Remarks:

1. **Mrs. Aida Kasymalieva**, Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the UN.
2. **Mrs. Sharapat Mazhitova**, Member of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic.
3. **Mrs. Elisenda Vives Balmaña**, Permanent Representative of the Principality of Andorra to the United Nations.
4. **Mr. Jochen Hans-Joachim Almoslechner**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations.

Presenters:

1. **Mr. Jamil Ahmad**, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, UNEP
2. **Ms. Rosalaura Romeo**, Coordinator a.i. and FAO Officer, Mountain Partnership Secretariat
3. **Dr. Baldomero Lago**, Vice-Rector for Global Engagement, UVU
4. **Dr. Rusty Butler**, Mountain Partnership focal point at UVU (2006-2016), The Honorary Professor of the Kyrgyz National State University
5. **Dr. Jay DeSart**, Chair, History and Political Science, UVU
6. **Tristin Juarez-Smith**, President of the UVU Rotaract club, a student club of Rotary International, an NGO in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
7. **Gulnura Amatova**, Osh Technological Institute
8. **Nazik Erkinbek kyzy**, Osh Technological Institute
9. **Baiyel Abibilaev**, Osh Technological Institute
10. **Tatiana Panfilenko**, Osh Technological Institute
11. **Qian Li**, Mountain Futures Research Center, Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China
12. **Jokudu Winnie Jada**, UVU Rotaractor, International Student from South Sudan
13. **Priyanka Prem Kumar**, Independent Researcher and Data Analyst, India

Closing Remarks:

14. **Mrs. Aida Kasymalieva**, Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the UN



Provisional Programme of the Side Event featured
Tristin Juarez-Smith, UVU Rotaract President



(L to R) Rotaract President Tristin Juarez-Smith, Deputy PR of Austria, Mr. Jochen Hans-Joachim Almoslechner, Dr. Rusty Butler, RANS, Mrs. Sharapat Mazhitova, Member of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic, PR of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mrs. Aida Kasymalieva, UIMF President Alitha Thompson, Jamil Ahmad, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, UNEP, and Dr. Jay DeSart Chair, UVU History and Political Science Department



UIMF President Alitha Thompson moderates for the Side Event sponsored by the Permanent Mission of the Kyrgyz Republic to the UN and the Mountain Partnership, and standing with UN Environment Programme Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Jamil Ahmad



(L to R): Dr. Baldomero Lago, UVU VP for Global Engagement, Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the UN, Mrs. Aida Kasymalieva, UIMF President Alitha Thompson and Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the UN, Mr. Bakhtiyor Ibragimov after the Side Event



UIMF President Alitha
Thompson with Permanent
Representative of the
Principality of Andorra to
the UN,
Mrs. Elisenda Vives
Balmaña



Rotarian Baktybek
Abdrisaev with
delegation and
parliamentary members
of the Kyrgyz Republic
after completion of the
Side Event on March
8th, 2023



UVU Rotaractors meet with the Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the UN, Mrs. Aida Kasymalieva to prepare for the Side Event and spotlight UIMF partnership with Osh Technological University Rotaract.

Rotarian Cholpon
Akmatalieva with
Permanent Representative
of the Kyrgyz Republic Mrs.
Aida Kasymalieva in a
meeting to discuss UVU
Rotaract's participation in
the Kyrgyz Republic Side
Event on International
Women's Day, March 8th,
2023





President of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ambassador Csaba Kőrösi. UVU Rotaractor leadership led the discussions in the General Assembly conference room and introduced Rotaract members





UVU Rotaractor
Winnie Jada from
South Sudan with
Rotaractors Stephan
Atkinson, Hendrick
Bailey, Natalie
Williams, and Rachel
Welker met with the
Permanent
Representative of
South Sudan to the
UN, Mr. Akuei Bona
Malwal



Mr. Sun Zhiqiang, the Political Coordinator & Minister Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations, took UVU Rotaractors to the UN Security Council's session on May 6, 2023



UVU Rotaractors Stephan Atkinson, Priyanka Prem Kumar, Handen Torsak, Sami Davis and Rachel Welker connecting with other UN NGO's after Side Events to promote Utah, UVU and Rotary.



UVU Rotaractors highlight student initiatives during the meeting with the Honorable Richard Mills, United States deputy ambassador to the UN, and Ngoyi Ngoyi, Political Advisor at the Permanent Mission of the United States to the UN.



UVU Rotaract
President Tristin
Smith, President Elect
McKay Brooks,
Stephan Atkinson,
Handen Torsak,
Hendrix Bailey,
Chance Simons,
Priyanka Prem Kumar,
and Smith Griggs, met
with Permanent
Representative of Great
Britain to the UN, Her
Excellency Dame
Barbara Woodward



UVU Rotaractors finish the trip by attending the Global Women in Music by the UN Symphony, exceptionally conducted by Maestra Anoa Green – performing a full program featuring pieces of female composers from around the world to advance gender equality.

