

My first day at the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women



UVU delegation at the United Nations Library

On March 6, 2023, we went to the United Nations headquarters for the first day of the 67th Commission on the Status of Women. We got together as a group and took group photos. We then went to the United Nations Library where we had a brief session by one of the librarians on what documents were in the library, the research they do and so on. Dr. Lago then presented the library with copies of the "Why It Matters" books from Utah Valley University on the Sustainable Development Goals. We had a brief session with the UN representative of Kyrgyzstan. She talked about the importance of strengthening the ties Utah had with the Kyrgyzstan nation since both nations were mountainous. Later in the evening, we held our parallel event where students got to speak.

For me, the highlight of the day was meeting the ambassador of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations, H.E. Aida Kasymalieva and also the speech by Ms. Wendy Jyang of Utah China Fish. H.E. Kasymalieva during her speech talked about the importance of equality for women and representation and her being in her position is a great way to show that Kyrgyzstan supports equal rights for women. Ms. Wendy Jyang talked about the importance of unity and why it is important for us to be kind to those around us because we are united together. For me, seeing both women, the work they do and impact they have on people around them is very inspirational.



UVU delegation with Ambassador Aida Kasymalieva

After my presentation on the “The Status of Women in South Sudan and how the SEL method can be used to solve issues” I talked to a lady, Ms. Jane Anyango who runs a nonprofit, “Polycom Development Project” in Kenya. Her non profit advocates for education among girls in rural areas in Kenya. She told me that she thinks that the SEL model can be implemented in her region and it is a great

solution. Just like we as UVU Rotaract and UIMF have been able to use the SEL model and it has worked, others can implement it as well.

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