

# Global Engagement Newsletter

[uvu.edu/global](http://uvu.edu/global)

February 2022, vol. 5

## Upcoming Events:

**February 1:** Registration for the Why It Matters Conference Opens

**February 18:** US Congress Open World Exchange Program Ukrainian LGBTQ Activists

**February 22:** Youth and Host committee meeting, Why It Matters Conference update

**February 23:** International Mother Language Day, Global Spotlight Event with the UVU Department of Languages and Cultures

**February 24:** Francis Su, Professor of Mathematics at Harvey Mudd College, Global Spotlight Event with the UVU Department of Mathematics



## Welcome

As a member of the advisory board, it has been my privilege to see UVU's Office for Global Engagement in action. Even with plans disrupted and travel halted by the pandemic, Baldomero Lago and his team have continued to provide students and the community with perspectives of the world far beyond the classroom.

Notably, the office has hosted international dignitaries both via video and in person. On March 21, 2022, UVU will again host the Utah Diplomatic Conference on International Trade Relations. This conference will bring together students, business, and foreign diplomats in the only gathering of its kind in Utah.

An affiliate partner of the United Nations since 2017, UVU co-hosted a successful Civil Society conference in August 2019, drawing over 6,000 participants from more than 140 countries to Salt Lake City.

Next fall, October 5-7, students, faculty, and the public are invited to the First International Academic Conference on the Sustainable Development Goals, "Why It Matters," in collaboration with the United Nations—right here on campus. While traveling abroad remains limited, the Office for Global Engagement continues to bring the world to us, putting UVU on the map worldwide and helping students understand their potential to contribute globally.

We invite you to join the journey!



Laurie Williams Sowby  
Global Community Advisory Board

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# Utah Diplomatic Conference on International Trade Relations | March 21, 2022

**Registration Now Open:** [uvu.edu/global/diplomatic-conference](http://uvu.edu/global/diplomatic-conference)

We are honored, and excited, to be hosting the Fourth Annual Utah Diplomatic Conference on International Trade Relations here on campus, March 21. We will have career diplomats from **Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, South Africa, Spain, and Ukraine**, and many others. As well as, a representative from the United Nations, Felipe Queipo (United Nations Communications Officer).



“...it is so important for our students (to) understand how **the world is opening up to them**, and it is because of people like you and what you do and what you bring to Utah that **we will be able to educate our students better.**”

-Dr. Astrid Tuminez, President, Utah Valley University

“The **future** of our state depends on our **global partners** and **global friends.**”

-Spencer Cox, Lieutenant Governor, State of Utah

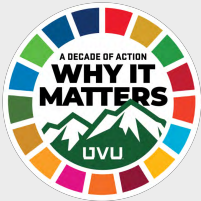


## FACULTY

### Are you aware of our new Global Spotlight?

The Global Spotlight is an academic/cultural program led by faculty in collaboration with the Office for Global Engagement. It is carefully designed with the intent to trigger global and intercultural engagement across campus and within the community. We encourage faculty to take this opportunity to lead an event with the goal of enhancing the UVU student experience on campus. Faculty may receive funds up to \$1500 to help make the event a reality. The Global Spotlight experience must include an international component which benefits students directly and must have department chair approval before submitting the Funding Report form.

**For more information access:** [uvu.edu/global/global-spotlight](http://uvu.edu/global/global-spotlight)



# Why It Matters Conference

5—7 October 2022

Registration Opens: February 1 2022



Department of  
Global Communications  
Civil Society Unit

## Where We Are Now

From April 1, 2021 to February 14, 2022, we have received **379 proposals**, **197 youth** (52%) and **180 adult** (48%), from students and community members from around the world. We are thrilled about the participation and involvement we have seen from so many. We look forward to the coming months as we continue our preparations for the 1st International Academic Conference on the Sustainable Development Goals “Why It Matters” in collaboration with the United Nations.



**58**

Participating Countries Around the World

**221**

Paper Submissions



**105**

Oral Submissions



**51**

Poster Submissions

## UVU Involvement

Total Submissions: **52**

**24**

Paper Submissions

**21**

Oral Submissions

**7**

Poster Submissions



# Old New Years Celebration

## Старый Новый год

**January 14, 2022** — Our office celebrated the Slavic Old-New Years tradition with those from UVU and others from the community. The Celebration was filled with incredible food, a traditional performance, and a visit from Ded Moroz and Snegurochka. We appreciate those from the International Student Council (especially Artur and First) and members from the Global Student Leadership Council, Carolina and Annette, for their help.



### Model UN CANCELLATION

It is with great regret that we announce that the High School Model UN event on January 29, 2022 is **cancelled** due to the rise of Covid-19 cases in the State of Utah. We hoped to postpone this event to a later date in February. However, we were not able to accommodate all the individuals needs that the MUN teams or space and volunteer availability require in order to proceed. We hope to be able to host this event in 2023!

