Tree Mapping at UVU during UN Day

On October 25th, 2018 in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the creation of the Center for Social Impact at Utah Valley University (UVU), I had the opportunity to engage our club members in a community service project on the campus of UVU. To commemorate this important event, the Center for Social Impact, hosts one event every month on the 25th, covering topics that range from Food Insecurity to Refugee Services. This month, the focus was on Sustainability, in celebration of the U.N. Sustainability Day and the corresponding Sustainability Day on the campus of UVU.



Megan Davis, UIMF member participates in the project

For this service opportunity, the College of Science asked our Model UN Club in mapping every single tree on UVU campus. Using GPS technologies, we were able to map the location of trees on the campus of UVU. This project will serve two purposes; first, to allow the school to know where each tree is and make sure that each tree is being taken care of and second, to assist UVU in gaining the recognition of being a Tree Campus USA. This foundation awards schools that attain the distinction to receive a plaque, special recognition, and special activities for Arbor Day. Over the course of 4 hours, a group of 30-40 students was able to map every single tree on campus and the College of Science is now working on inputting the data in order to achieve the recognition of being a Tree Campus. The service project was an excellent opportunity to serve the campus in a meaningful way, and I was very appreciative of the opportunity. This was especially important for the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), a coalition of student clubs at UVU, because mapping each tree on campus and achieving this distinction allows UVU to have more distinction in the international community.

Andrew Jensen, President, Model UN Club at UVU