

My Contribution to Hosting Peruvian Ambassador to the OAS

My peers and I had the great opportunity to speak to His Excellency, Ambassador Harold Forsyth, on the success of the student engaged learning method on March 3, 2022. His Excellency hails from Peru and is currently serving as the Permanent Representative of Peru to the Organization of American States. He was invited to speak and share some of his experiences, and have student-led group conversations with students associated with Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), a coalition of student clubs at Utah Valley University. This was a great learning experience for all involved. It provided student-led opportunities to learn from each other in their respective studies.



Dallas Karren opening up the discussion with His Excellency, Ambassador Harold Forsyth

Students presented information on various topics, from sustainable practices in mountain developments, to climate change, to current challenges with drug cartels. It was as enlightening as it was inspiring. The variance of topics of discussion demonstrated in that moment the success of the Student Engaged Learning method; students of different backgrounds and passions teaching

and learning together to discuss and problem solve the problems of the world, with an emphasis on mountain communities.

I presented on the great importance of the practices of Student Engaged Learning. This method is not only effective, but also imperative in our time. The Student Engaged Learning method allows, and encourages students of all backgrounds, and of all ages to participate in learning and education. This enables students to advance professionally, and also provides a rich learning experience for all involved.



Alexandria Lamb presenting on the Student Engaged Learning Model to His Excellency, Ambassador Harold Forsythe

This was a unique experience because it provided different student-led groups at Utah Valley University to organize and produce an event of this scale to His Excellency, all for the sake of sustainable mountain development. The clubs that participated in this event presented UIMF and ranged from UVU Rotaract club, Sustainable Mountain Development, Foreign Affairs, and more.

Each student had a unique role to play in executing this event and through working in synchronous communication and effort, we produced a great event that many can learn from in the future.



Round table discussion between students and His Excellency, Ambassador Harold Forsythe

The opportunity that student engaged learning encourages, is that education is attainable no matter what barriers exist. And that is what we discussed with His Excellency. Through teaching peers in the classroom, to educating diplomats in the auditorium, Utah Valley University has captured the essence of engaged learning. Once we open the gates of education, we enlist and encourage students to be the problem solvers of the world. And they have the skills to accomplish that because of the Student Engaged Learning method.

Alexandria Lamb, UIMF member