

Visit of the Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan to the US and Canada, H.E. Baktybek Amanbaev to Utah Valley University



Ambassador Amanbaev lecturing at UVU

On February 15, 2023, the current Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan to the United States and Canada, H.E. Baktybek Amanbaev visited Utah Valley University (UVU). This visit was hosted by the UVU Office For Global Engagement and the Utah International Mountain Forum, a coalition of student clubs at UVU co-hosted the event under the leadership of the Foreign Affairs Club. They did that through a student engaged learning (SEL) model. SEL encourages student to work as a group on implementing practically certain meaningful initiative or project with their teacher mentoring them. The ambassador visited UVU together with his wife, Mrs.

Almazkan Akmatova, and first secretary of the Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United States Ermek Sydykov.



President of UIMF Alitha Thompson presents gift to Ambassador Amanbaev

A reception was held at the Lakeview Room in the Fulton Library, with a well-organized seating and food plus refreshments were provided. At this reception I took photographs of the ambassador and other guests as they arrived and interacted with each other. Some former students, faculty, current students and all the other presidents of the UIMF were in attendance. During the reception, the ambassador thanked members of UIMF and the Foreign Affairs for co-hosting him and also commended them for the work well done. The ambassador also talked about how similar Kyrgyzstan and Utah are in terms of their geography. The current president

of UIMF Alitha Thompson also awarded the ambassador with some gifts on behalf of the club.

This event was a great opportunity to build teamwork as we worked together with other students. My colleagues Stephan Atkinson, Tristin Smith, Alitha Thompson, Racheal Welker and others did a great job managing the event and making sure everything went over smoothly. Not only was this event a way to exercise the SEL model but it also shows how effective this model is. I am grateful to have been a part of this event because not only was it a great opportunity to meet the ambassador, but it was a great opportunity to be able to take photos during the event.

By Jokudu Jada (Winnie), Political Science/Global Politics student, UVU