



Hosting International Mountain Day Observation at Utah Valley University

2023
2027




Five Years of Action
for the Development of
Mountain Regions




16th United Nations International Mountain Day at Utah Valley University

SNOWPACK MATTERS FOR SUSTAINABLE WATER, FOOD AND LIVELIHOODS IN MOUNTAINS AND BEYOND.




Lynn Hill,
Internationally
Known
Climber,
Author of the
book: *Climbing
Free: My Life in
the Vertical
World*

*Thank you
for the
great work!
Lynn Hill*



Dr. Muktar
Djumaliev,
Expert on Trade
and Climate
Policy, FMR
Ambassador of
Kyrgyzstan to
the USA.

*Looking forward to
continue working
with UVU team
in Geneva and Bishkek
Djumaliev*



Dr. Matt Olson,
Assistant
Professor of
Earth Science at
UVU, Expert in
Global Alpine
Glacier Change

*Excellent work!
Matt Olson*


Designed By Allie Holt

DEC 2, 2025


🕒 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM MST


📍 CB510, Utah Valley University

Livestream At




More Info At







COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
& SOCIAL SCIENCES




COLLEGE OF SCIENCE



HISTORY &
POLITICAL SCIENCE



DEPARTMENT OF
EARTH SCIENCE



UTAH STATE CAPITOL BUILDING

On Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at Utah Valley University (UVU), the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF; a coalition of UVU student clubs), in partnership with the student participants of POLS-3560G, hosted their sixteenth annual International Mountain Day Observation. The theme was “Glaciers matter for water, food and livelihoods in mountains and

beyond,” as defined by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Lynn Hill, an internationally recognized climber and the first to free climb The Nose on El Capitan in 1993, was the featured keynote speaker who presented alongside Dr. Muktar Djumaliev (who joined via conference call), a Trade and Climate Policy expert and former Ambassador of the Kyrgyz Republic, and Dr. Matt Olson, Assistant Professor of Earth Science at Utah Valley University.

The planning and implementation of this event was entirely student-directed, with each student participant bearing responsibility for a specific task or component of the preparation process and putting it into action. This approach, known as student-engaged learning (SEL), showcases the impact of meaningful student involvement when it moves beyond the classroom and bridges gaps between academic learning and real-world challenges.

As a UIMF member and student of the course overseeing the affair, I contributed to this initiative as the graphic designer for the event’s brochure and student certificates of recognition. Being able to utilize my design skills, while they are not typically central to my participation in most activities, highlighted the impact of drawing upon diverse and sometimes unexpected competencies to move forward collective goals. As the principal graphic designer, I worked to develop a continuous brand between these works, that combined the traditional expectations and nature of the event with a more robust, clean, and cohesive appearance. As part of the design process, I collaborated with my peers and other stakeholders on campus (such as printing services/the copy center) to establish the initial design, make iterative changes as new needs arose, and execute the final physical deliverable. Not only did I work to refine my design skills through practical application, but I also worked to develop durable skills such as collaboration, delegation, and stewardship.

Skills like these are crucial for preparing students to engage in global policy discussions, such as UIMF’s continued participation in United Nations sustainable development forums. Through the service-based learning gained from participating in and contributing to the International Mountain Day observation at UVU, students like myself steward local community engagement on important topics, while developing a global perspective on sustainable mountain development and practical experiences necessary to address complex challenges in matters of sustainability and international policy.

Seeing my work come to life and contribute to the visibility and effectiveness of the International Mountain Day event was deeply meaningful. Witnessing the impact of this event and the people we reached reinforced the value of applying diverse skills to collective initiatives, and through the student recognition certificates, provided me with a personal reminder of this experience and the role I played in making the event a success.



Lynn Hill & Dean Horns (Dean of the College of Science at UVU) Pose With the Certificates Designed by Abbie Fisher

By Abbie Fisher: Psychology Major & UIMF Club Member at Utah Valley University