

16th International Mountain Day Observation at Utah Valley University

On December 2, 2025 members of the Utah International Mountain Forum observed International Mountain Day at UVU

2023
2027

Five Years of Action
for the Development of
Mountain Regions

INTERNATIONAL
MOUNTAIN DAY

**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.

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

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

Thank you for the great work!
Lynn Hill

Looking forward to
continuing working
with UVU team
in Geneva and Bishkek
Danielle

Excellent work!
Matt Olson

DEC 2, 2025

11:30 AM - 12:45 PM MST

CB510, Utah Valley University

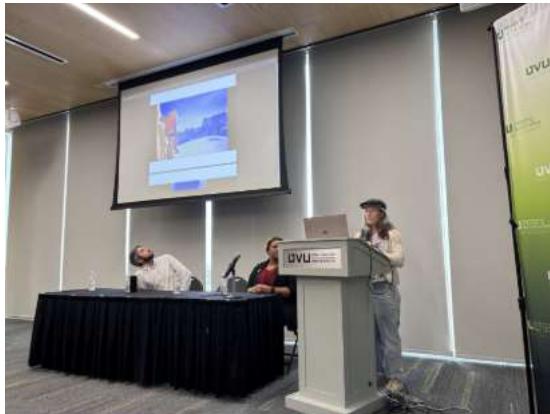
Hosted through Student Engaged Learning

UVU COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES UVU COLLEGE OF SCIENCE UVU HISTORY & POLITICAL SCIENCE UVU DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCE

Livestream At More Info At

UVU International Mountain Day December 2, 2025

On Tuesday December 2, 2025 members of the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), an organization of UVU student clubs, met to celebrate International Mountain Day at UVU's Orem campus for the 16th time. For the past 14 years, since 2011, UVU has hosted International Mountain Day (IMD) through student-led engagement. This program encourages students to work together on creating presentations and events, through group led critical thinking and applying real-life experiences, along with the mentorship of faculty members. I had the honor, along with my fellow students and club members, to prepare the event and presents gifts to our speakers.



Presentations by Lynn Hill and Dr. Muhktar Djumalev

This year, we were honored to hear from world-renowned rock climber Lynn Hill, the first to free climb El Capitan in Yosemite National Park, Dr. Muktar Djumalev, diplomat from the Kyrgyz Republic with expertise in global trade, as well as UVU's own professors Dr. Matt Olsen, Assistant Professor of Earth Science. Dr David Connelly, Research Director of the Herbert Institute in Public Policy, also addressed us, giving an announcement of the upcoming edited version of "Advancing Sustainable Mountain Futures: Insights from Utah and Global Mountain Regions". This new edited version is dedicated to the United Nations Five Year Action for Sustainable Development of Mountain Regions.

The United Nations emphasis this year on IMD is "Glaciers matter for water, food and livelihoods in mountains and beyond". Our speakers spoke passionately about the significance of glaciers and how they sustain lives, especially in mountain regions like Utah. Attendees were given ways to help our glaciers and were given scientific evidence and established knowledge of the melting rate of glaciers. Utah Valley University's IMD event and information learned, gave UIMF members the opportunity to prepare for their visits to the United Nations to present to different forums on the importance of sustainable development for the year of 2026.

My fellow UIMF members were honored and appreciated the thoughts and knowledge shared by Lynn Hill. Contributors to the event were presented with a Certificate of the United Nations Mountain Partnership by Lynn Hill.



Lynn Hill presenting to me the Certificate of the United Nations Mountain Partnership

Attending this event has reminded me of the importance of the United Nations Sustainable Development initiatives. As a recent member of the UIMF, this event provided me with the opportunity to expand my knowledge on the changes to our climate and actions needed to reduce our impact on our environment. This was a great reminder of how advocacy and leadership is essential to take initiative. Being raised in Utah along the Rockies, UVU's IMD event showed me, and others involved, that whether it be the Rocky Mountains, Caucasus Mountains, the Pyrenees, or Lewis Range, it has been made clear from our speakers that mountains provide more than just beauty. Mountains matter for our livelihoods, and we cannot put their preservation on hold, action is needed now.

Once again, a special thank you to Lynn Hill, Dr. Mukhtar Djumalev, and Dr. Matt Olsen for their time and effort put into their presentations. I also would like to express gratitude to the continued support of Daniel Horns, Janet Colvin, Jay Desart, Tanicca Armstrong, Steven Clark, Cathy Ambrose, Allie Stratton and Choplona Akmatalieva of UIMF activities contributing to the Sustainable Mountain Development advocacy.

Written by Grace Jergensen, Utah Valley University student