

Utah Valley University 800 West University Parkway Orem, UT 84058 October 1, 2015

RE: The 4th International Women of the Mountains Conference

Dear Organizers and Attendees,

American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS (American Councils) applauds the assembly of the Fourth International Women of the Mountains (IWM) Conference, as an event that further addresses the needs of women, children, and overall communities in the unique topography of mountainous regions worldwide.

The Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), host of this event, shares with American Councils a respect and commitment to improving the civil societies of these regions. Through our respective projects and initiatives, we are both aware that the potential to become proponents of gender equity, democracy, access to a quality education, healthy lifestyles, and economic empowerment can be cultivated in girls and women from Kazakhstan to Uruguay, or from the Kyrgyz Republic to China.

We wish you and the other participants of IWM a most successful conference at Utah Valley University (UVU). We look forward to new opportunities to further strengthen our relationship. Kind regards,

Michael Curtis

Vice President, American Councils for International Education