



*“Students Engaged Learning
Through Sustainable Mountain
Development and Gender
Advocacy”*

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The Fourth International Women of the Mountains Conference
Orem, October 7-9, 2015

ENGAGED LEARNING APPROACH AT UVU



- The student led initiative to host 2015 Women of the Mountains Conference is based on UVU's engaged learning approach which is "...in the spirit of the Carnegie Foundation designation, designed to help realize the two engagement categories that UVU has achieved:
- 1) Curricular Engagement (Curricular Engagement describes the teaching, learning, and scholarship that engages faculty, students, and community in mutually beneficial and respectful collaboration.
- Their interactions address community identified needs, deepen students' civic and academic learning, enhance community well-being, and enrich the scholarship of the 2015 Carnegie Elective Community;

ENGAGED LEARNING APPROACH AT UVU



- 2) Outreach and Partnerships (Outreach and Partnerships describe two different but related approaches to community engagement.
- The first focuses on the application and provision of institutional resources for community use with benefits to both campus and community.
- The latter focuses on collaborative interactions with community and related scholarship for the mutually beneficial exchange, exploration, and application of knowledge, information, and resources (research, capacity building, economic development, etc.) (<http://www.uvu.edu/gel/about/index.html>)

ENGAGED LEARNING APPROACH AND SMD



- UVU was involved in SMD promotion since joining the Mountain Partnership (MP) in 2006;
- MP is a United Nations voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of mountain people and protecting mountain environments around the world.
- (For more information, see: <http://www.mountainpartnership.org/>)
- Major efforts were focused on raising an awareness of local communities in Utah and Rocky Mountains about importance of SMD agenda and promotion of activities of the Mountain Partnership



ENGAGED LEARNING APPROACH AND SMD

1. Hosting WOMCs

- UVU started to host WOMC since 2007 which allowed to get students and faculty engaged in:
- 1) Advocacy of gender and SMD agendas on local, regional and global levels;
- 2) Expansion of network of MP members in the region;
- 2) Building partnership between Utah and mountain nations in Central Asia





ENGAGED LEARNING APPROACH AND SMD



2. Hosting International Mountain Days

- ❑ UVU students and faculty engaged annually since 2010 in celebration of the International Mountain Day declared by the United Nations on December 11;
 - ❑ It helps UVU students to raise an awareness in importance of SMD agenda among local communities;
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ENGAGED LEARNING APPROACH AND SMD

3. Utah High School Essay Contests on different aspects of SMD agenda

- UVU students engaged in hosting annually essay contests for high school since 2011;
 - It helps them both to raise a new generation of leaders in SMD promotion and to improve their professional skills through teaching and mentoring;
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ENGAGED LEARNING APPROACH AND SMD

4. Teaching SMD and improvement of curriculum

- Student and faculty engagement in SMD advocacy stimulated development new courses on SMD, like POLS2250 “Globalization and SMD,” which is taught students since 2010.
 - There is a growing need to develop new course for upper division students with focus on SMD promotion.
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ENGAGED LEARNING APPROACH AND SMD

5. Development of Research Skills with Focus on SMD

- UVU student engagement in SMD advocacy since 2006 leads to the accumulation of knowledge, and data with growing role for student research;
- Department already printed 2 volumes of the student research journals “Youth and the Mountains” and plans to print volume #3 after the WOMC

