UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

University Center for Economic Development

First Quarter Report
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Prepared by

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Summary: In April 2000, the University Center for Economic Development at the University of Nevada, Reno funding cycle began again. Therefore, the quarterly reports start in April. The University Center for Economic Development continued to profile statewide and technical assistance in economic development for the first quarter of FY 2004-2005. During the first quarter, the University Center produced eight applied research projects, nine other research projects, five technical and management assistance projects, eleven counseling and referrals, one workshop, one technical presentation, and one published journal article.

Project Mix and Staff: The University Center registered activity in a wide variety of areas and has actively participated in programs throughout the state. The University Center has a staff of Thomas R. Harris, Director; Mike Havercamp, State Extension Mediation and Group Facilitator Specialist, Jake Burkey, Research associate; Elizabeth (Betsy) Fadali, Research Associate; William O. Champney, Professor Emeritus and Consultant for Feasibility Projects; and Lisa McGraw, Administrative Assistant at the University of Nevada, Reno, Anita Shirlock, Billye French Genet Sauer, George “Buddy” W. Borden, Community Development Specialist, is also affiliated with the University Center but is located at the Clark County Cooperative Extension Office in Las Vegas.
Project Summaries

A: Marketing Activities:

University Center continues its technical assistance to agencies interested in marketing and promoting economic development in the state of Nevada. The University Center developed procedures to review and mail to interested populace products developed by the University Center. These products are fact sheets, technical reports and journal articles. Nineteen technical reports were prepared for review during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2003-2004 by the University Center. Eight workshops were presented by the University Center for presentation of economic data and results of past projects.

The Center is currently maintaining a web page. The address is http://www.ag.unr.edu/uced. From this web page a person will be able to access and download past University Center Technical Reports, Regional Economic Information System data developed by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis for the state of Nevada in its seventeen counties and selected historical and current economic data from various state agencies. The web site has been upgraded to a database-driven format and Nevada state agency data may be defined for download using a web form, and are available in a choice of download formats. Links to other key sites can also be found. The site is constantly being updated with reports and new data sets. University Center Technical Bulletins for 1995 through 2003 are currently online in Adobe PDF format.

B. Applied Research:

   Location of Project: State of Nevada

   Nature of Project: Nevada, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Missouri, and Oklahoma where chosen as pilot states for a National Rural Health Pilot Project called Operation Rural Health Works.

   Action: Economic impact of health care sector on fifteen Nevada counties is currently being calculated. This year’s analysis will employ the new North American Industrial Classification System to derive health case sector impacts. Also, White Pine County is targeted for a detailed analysis of health care system for this year. Also, completed analysis of emergency medical technicians questionnaire. (Assignment continues)


2. Client: Rural Nevada
   Location of Project: Mountain States
**Nature of Project:** Develop a location model to estimate probabilities of Location of a given manufacturing and/or commercial sector industry.

**Action:** County Business Pattern data are being collected for the Mountain States to estimate the number of firms by industrial classification. Business count and socio-economic data will be employed to develop a model to estimate probability of location for a given economic sector in a given county. (Assignment continues.)

3. **Client:** Western Rural Development Center  
   **Location of Project:** Western States of the Nation

**Action:** Proposal drafted to develop a regional industrial targeting program and community-business matching computer program. (Assignment continues.)

4. **Client:** Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station  
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** estimate the economic impacts of the horse industry on the state of Nevada.

**Action:** Data is being collected to develop a budget for horse ownership and a questionnaire of participants at horse industry functions. (Assignment continues.)

5. **Client:** Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station  
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Estimation of location factors for biotechnology firms and county level.

**Action:** Location data collected and initial findings presented to a biotechnology workshop sponsored by the Dean of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources at the University of Nevada, Reno. (Assignment continues.)

6. **Client:** Lincoln County Government  
   **Location of Project:** Lincoln County, Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Strategic tourism Plan for Lincoln County

**Action:** Workshops were held in Caliente, Nevada and Alamo, Nevada to formulate tasks for Lincoln County tourism strategic planning. Also numerous socio-economic data analysis publications were developed as background materials for the Lincoln county tourism strategic plan. A list of publications is shown below: (assignment completed.)

7. **Client:** Rural Development Centers  
   **Location of Project:** Rural access of the United States
Nature of Project: Development of materials addressing industrial ad cluster targeting for rural areas of the U.S.
Action: Initial conference call held and a meeting of group to be held in Orlando to scope out drafts and extension materials. (Assignment continues)

8. Client: City of Sparks
Location of Project: City of Sparks

Nature of Project: Manufacturing targeting ad cluster study for the city of Sparks.
Action: An industrial targeting and cluster study was completed for the city of Sparks. (Assignment completed).


9. Client: Eureka County Commissioners
Location of Project: Eureka County

Nature of Project: Develop a county-wide input-output model of Eureka County.
Action: Proposal written, drafted, and submitted to Eureka County Commissioners. Proposal accepted by commissioners and data questionnaires is being developed. (Assignment continues).


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Fadali, Elizabeth, Thomas R. Harris, George “Buddy” W. Borden, and Michael Havercamp. “Socioeconomic Profile of East and West Lincoln County study Areas.” April 2004, UCED 2004/05-05


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C. Other Research Projects:

1. Client: Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona
Location of Project: Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona.

Nature of Project: The regional economy is interested in further understanding the economic linkages between bordering communities. Over the next year, various work will be conducted including updating regional I/0 model, targeted industries analysis, and selected industry/event impact studies.
Action: An analysis of water-based users and economics in the Laughlin/Bullhead City Area were estimated and published. (Assignment continues.)

2. Client: Comstock Tourism Group  
Location of Project: Storey and Lyon Counties and Carson City, Nevada  
Nature of Project: Develop a strategic tourism plan for the Comstock Center.

Action: A final report on tourism marketing activities on the Comstock’s being developed. (Assignment continues.)

3. Client: Bureau of Land Management  
Location of Project: Lyon county and Carson City Nevada  
Nature of Project: Complete a feasibility study of a proposed national wild horse and burro interpretative center in Lyon County, Nevada.

Action: University Center personnel have initiated a feasibility study of the national BLM wild horse and burro interpretative center (assignment continues.)

4. Client: Nevada Association of Counties  
Location of Project: Rural Nevada  
Nature of Project: Develop a web page for the Nevada Rural Development Council.

Action: A web page has initially been developed for the Nevada Rural Development Council. Web page is being expanded. (Assignment continues.)

5. Client: State Emergency Medical System Project  
Location of Project: State of Nevada  
Nature of Project: Development and implementation of an EMS spreadsheet return/cost program.

Action: Initiated an application of EMS analysis in Eureka County. (Assignment continues.)

6. Client: Nevada Office of Rural Health  
Location of Project: State of Nevada  
Nature of Project: Estimate economic impacts of Medicaid Program on state of Nevada economy.

Action: Proposal drafted and data gathering has been initiated. (Assignment continues.)

Location of Project: Northern Nevada

Nature of Project: Feasibility analysis of potential livestock processing plant in Northeast Nevada.

Action: Initiated discussions and a feasibility analysis of potential livestock processing plant in northeastern Nevada. (Assignment continues.)

8. Client: Newmont Mining
Location of Project: Northwestern Nevada

Nature of Project: Requested information as to useful economic inputs to northwestern Nevada economy from construction and operation of electric power plant.

Action: Completed analysis and estimates of construction and operation inputs of planned electric power plant by Newmont Mining in northwestern Nevada. (Assignment completed.)

9. Client: University of Nevada, Reno
Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Estimation of economic reports of the University of Nevada on the economy of the state of Nevada.

Action: Impacts estimated and sent to University of Nevada Foundation offices. (Assignment completed.)

D. Technical and Management Assistance Projects:

1. Client: Dean’s Office of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, Location of Project: University of Nevada Reno

Nature of Project: Development of Agricultural Innovative Center Grant.

Action: The University Center assisted the Dean’s Office of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources in developing initial draft of a regional Agricultural innovative Center. (Assignment continues.)

2. Client: Northwestern Nevada Business Incubator Committee
Location of Project: Northeastern Nevada Counties of Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, and White Pine

Nature of Project: Assistance in data collection and analysis for a feasibility study for a northeastern Nevada business incubator
Action: Assisted ECEDA with data collection and analysis for completed business incubator study in northeast Nevada. (Assignment completed)


3. Client: Elko Chamber of Commerce
Location of Project: Elko, Nevada

Nature of Project: Request for a strategic planning project for Elko Chamber of Commerce.

Action: A strategic planning session was held and work assignments made. The University Center continues to assist the Elko County Chamber of Commerce. (Assignment continues.)

4. Client: Wells, Nevada
Location of Project: Wells, Nevada

Nature of Project: Feasibility analyses of potential tire reuse facility.

Action: Feasibility data and analysis sent to Wells, Nevada (assignment completed).

5. Client: Humboldt County
Location of Project: Winnemucca, Nevada

Nature of Project: Request to estimate potential rider ship for a commercial airline in Winnemucca.

Action: A questionnaire is being developed to determine potential rider ship and fare charges for possible commercial airline in Winnemucca. (Assignment continues.)
6. Client: Moapa Valley  
Location of Project: Moapa Valley

Nature of Project: Provide ongoing technical assistance to community-organized strategic planning committee. This committee was assembled over two years ago. (Assignment continues.)

7. Client: Lincoln County Commissioners  
Location of Project: Lander County

Nature of Project: Collect and provide analysis of county-wide socio-economic analysis for Lander County CEDS. Numerous publications were prepared for the Lincoln County Commissioners. (Assignment completed).

8. Client: Mineral County Commissioner  
Location of Project: Mineral County

Nature of Project: Estimation of unemployment rate for Mineral County.

Action: Unemployment rate for Mineral County estimated through primary sources. Unemployment estimate set to EDA regional office for use in project proposal. (Assignment completed.)

9. Client: Cooperative Extension  
Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Extension publication or in-communities and out-communities for state Nevada and the seventeen counties.

Action: In-communities and out communities data being collected at the state and county level. Data based on 2000 Census data.

10. Client: Nevada Manufacturing Assistance Program  
Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Date assistance for MAP grant

Action: Provided economic data to University of Nevada, Reno MAP program in their proposal to EDA. (Assignment completed.)