University of Nevada, Reno

University Center for Economic Development

Second Quarter Report
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Prepared by

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Summary: In June 2006, the University Center for Economic Development at the University of Nevada, Reno changed its funding cycle to begin on the month of June. Therefore, the quarterly reports after 2006 start in the month of June. The University Center for Economic Development continued to profile statewide and technical assistance on economic development for the second quarter of FY 2006-2007. During the second quarter, the University Center produced six applied research projects, four other research projects, nine technical and management assistance projects, four counseling and referrals, two workshop, two technical presentations, and three special extension publications.

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; Jonathan Alevy, Research Assistant Professor, Elizabeth (Betsy) Fadali, Research Associate; Shannon Price, Research Associate; John Wright, Graduate Research Assistant; Billye French and Genet Sauer, Administrative Assistants; 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. Three technical reports and three special extension publications were published during the second quarter fiscal year 2006-2007 by the University Center. Two workshops were presented by the University Center for presentation of economic data and results of past projects. Four presentations were made by the University Center Director.

The Center is currently maintaining a web page. The address is [http://www.ag.unr.edu/uced](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. 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 2006 are currently online in Adobe PDF format.

B. Applied Research:

1. **Client:** Nevada Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Estimate the economic impacts of graduates of the WICHE program on the state of Nevada economy. For example, the state of Nevada does not have a School of Veterinary Medicine. Students from Nevada apply to go to out of state Veterinary Schools through the WICHE program. Students must after graduation work in assigned areas of the state as repayment for the WICHE program.

**Action:** Data has been collected as to location of WICHE graduates in the state of Nevada and their professions. An economic impact analysis was completed which estimated the statewide economic impacts of the WICHE program on selected profession. A University Center Technical bulletin was completed. (Assignment continues).

2. **Client:** Laughlin, Nevada

**Location of Project:** Border Area of Nevada and Arizona.

**Nature of Project:** Estimate employment and economic impacts of closure of the Mohave Power Plant.

**Action:** A technical assistance proposal was developed for the Laughlin Area to derive employment mitigation strategies and sent to the Economic Development Administration. The proposal was accepted and study has been initiated. Three extension special publications accepted and published about the area. (Assignment continues).

Borden, Buddy, R. Grumbles and J. Lopez. “Fiscal Structures and Trends for Colorado River Communities including: Laughlin, NV, Bullhead City, AZ, Fort Mohave, AZ, Mohave Valley, AZ, Golden Valley, AZ, and Needles, CA.” Technical report summarizing historical fiscal trends in the Colorado River Region. This educational bulletin is being used by community leaders as a platform for developing and responding to policy issues. Special Publication 06-13 (49 pages).

Borden Buddy, R. Grumbles and J. Lopez. “Household Expenditure Survey Results for Colorado River Communities including: Laughlin, NV, Bullhead City, AZ, Fort Mohave, AZ, Mohave Valley, AZ, Golden Valley, AZ, and Needles, CA.” Technical report summarizing result from 807 focus group participants on household expenditure tendencies by different socioeconomic classifications. This educational bulletin provides local economic development organizations and policy decision makers’ baseline information used for economic development planning and strategic planning to reduce economic leakage. Special Publication 06-14 (36 pages).

Borden, Buddy, and R. Grumbles. “Multi-Regional Economic Impact Model for Colorado River Communities including: Laughlin, NV, Bullhead City, AZ, Fort Mohave, AZ, Mohave Valley, AZ, Golden Valley, AZ, and Needles, CA.” Technical report describing input-output (I/O) economic impact modeling methodology applied to multi-state regional area. This educational bulletin provides policy decision makers with a layman
3. **Client:** Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station.

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Estimate of location factors for biotechnology firms at the state level. Also economic impacts of the biotechnology firms in Nevada are being estimated.

**Action:** Detailed econometric models have been developed to estimate the factors of location for biotechnology firms. Also interdependence of location of biotechnology firms is being estimated. A Master’s Thesis was completed on this topic. A University Center Technical Bulletin and journal article are being developed. (Assessment continues).

4. **Client:** Western Rural Development Center

**Location of Project:** Western States of the Nation

**Nature of Project:** Western States of Nevada, Montana, and Hawaii are developing a model to match businesses with community economic development preferences.

**Action:** A community business matching model has been developed and is currently being applied in Anaconda, Montana and the Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City Arizona. A users’ manual is being developed. (Assignment continues).

5. **Client:** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada

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

**Action:** Economic impacts of health care sector on fifteen Nevada economies are currently being calculated. This year’s analysis will employ the new North American Industrial Classification System to derive county level health care sector impacts. (Assignment continues)
6. **Client:** Washoe County Government

**Location of Project:** Washoe County, Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Collect data and analyze data on costs of medical care for Washoe County Homeless. Part of a project titled “Examining the Cost-Effectiveness of Permanent Support Housing in Washoe County, Nevada”.

**Action:** Collected and analyzed data and assisted in writing “Medical Costs and Service Providers” and “Mental Health Costs and Service Providers” sections of the Washoe County Homeless study. (Assignment continues)

C. **Other Research Projects**

1. **Client:** Walker River Basin

**Location of Project:** Walker River Basin

**Nature of Project:** Estimation of economic impacts of surface purchases in Lyon County for fresh water flow to Walker Lake.

**Action:** Two proposals were submitted and accepted for the Walker River Basin Study. With notice of acceptance, studies will be initiated. (Assignment continues).

2. **Client:** Truckee Forest Hospital

**Location of Project:** Truckee Forest Hospital Service Area.

**Nature of Project:** Estimation of economic impacts of construction and operation activities of the Truckee Forest Hospital on the Truckee Forest Hospital Area economy.

**Action:** A proposal was drafted and accepted by Tahoe Forest Hospital. Data is being collected in order to derive economic impacts of Truckee Forest Hospital on the Truckee Forest Hospital District. (Assignment continues).
3. **Client:** University of Nevada Medical School  
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Estimation of economic impacts of University of Nevada Medical School activities on the Nevada economy.  
   **Action:** A research proposal and agenda was drafted and accepted by the University of Nevada Medical School. Data is currently being collected to complete a state-wide impact analysis of the University of Nevada Medical School. (Assignment continues).  

4. **Client:** Elko County Commissions  
   **Location of Project:** Elko County  
   **Nature of Project:** Estimation of economic impacts of public land grazing on the Elko County economy.  
   **Action:** Proposal drafted and accepted by Elko County Commissioners. Data collection and analysis has been completed. Five University Center Technical bulletins have been published. (Assignment completed).  


D. **Technical and Management Assistance Projects:**

1. **Client:** National Extension  
   **Location of Project:** Nationally  
   **Nature of Project:** The USDA National Extension Service has developed a program area called eXtension: Entrepreneurship. This will be a national program to develop entrepreneurship extension education tools for the internet.  
   **Action:** Initial meeting in Nashville, Tennessee to develop work plan and to outline entrepreneurship extension materials for the internet. (Assignment continues).

2. **Client:** Washoe County Government  
   **Location of Project:** Washoe County  
   **Nature of Project:** Development forward economic indicators for Washoe County and develop indicator for success of Washoe 2010 Project.  
   **Action:** A research proposal to develop forward indicators for Washoe County and indicator for success for 2010 Washoe County Project is being developed and will be forwarded to Washoe County Government. (Assignment continues).

3. **Client:** Moapa Valley, Nevada  
   **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.  
   **Action:** Planning Committee has been meeting regularly and the University Center has provided information and analysis as requested. (Assignment continues).
4. Client: Cooperative Extension

Location of Project: State of Nevada

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

Action: In-commuters and out-commuters data being collected at the state and county level. A University Technical report is being completed. (Assignment continues).

5. Client: Nevada Youth Entrepreneurship Project

Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Request to set up compressed video to discuss youth entrepreneurship program.

Action: Compressed video programs being scheduled. (Assignment continues).

6. Client: College of Arts at the University of Nevada, Reno

Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Estimation of economic impacts of the College of Arts at the University of Nevada, Reno on the Nevada economy.

Action: A research proposal and agenda was drafted and sent to the College of Arts at the University of Nevada. Data is currently being collected to complete a state-wide impact analysis of the College of Arts at the University of Nevada, Reno. (Assignment continues).

7. Client: High Sierra Industries (HIS)

Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Estimation of economic impacts of High Sierra Industries (HIS) on the economy of the state of Nevada.

Action: High Sierra Industries (HIS) assist physical and mentally challenged populace in the state with worker training and light manufacturing. Data is currently being collected to derive the economic impacts of High Sierra Industries (HIS) on the Nevada economy. (Assignment continues).
8. **Client:** State of Nevada Department of Transportation

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Requested information as to potential demand of truck drivers in the state of Nevada by economic sector.

**Action:** An occupation analysis was completed. Demand for truck drivers by economic sector was estimated and sent to the State of Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT). Results used as data for educational grant proposal by NDOT. (Assignment completed).

9. **Client:** Nevada Small Business Development Center

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Assist Nevada Small Business development Center with workshops and materials for the NeXt Level Agricultural Marketing Course

**Action:** Working with the Nevada Small Business Development Center, the University Center for Economic Development is developing workshop materials for the NeXt Level Agricultural Marketing Class. (Assignment continues).

E. **Counseling and Referrals:**

1. **Client:** Laughlin, Nevada

**Location of Project:** Laughlin, Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Requested information on Geographic Information System for their area.

**Action:** Had a conference call with Rural Policy Research Institute which has a national data set for Geographic Information System Analysis. (Assignment completed)

2. **Client:** Lincoln County Commissioners

**Location of Project:** Lincoln County

**Nature of Project:** Requested information as to planning guidelines for new development.

**Action:** Publications located as well as advice on sales tax collection. (Assignment completed).
3. **Client:** Nye County Government

**Location of Project:** Nye County

**Nature of Project:** Requested assistance on proposed closure on Tonopah Test Range.

**Action:** A research proposal is being developed and submitted to Nye County Commissioners. (Assignment continues).

4. **Client:** Fallon Paiute Tribe

**Location of Project:** Churchill County

**Nature of Project:** Estimation of potential commercial sector opportunities for the Fallon Paiute Tribe.

**Action:** A list of proposals outlines and proposals will be drafted later. (Assignment continues).

**F. Workshops and Seminars:**

1. **Client:** Department of Geography Graduate Class

**Location of Workshops:** University of Nevada, Reno

**Nature of Workshop:** Presentation on session titled “Fiscal Lessons in State of Nevada and Nevada Counties Facing Property Limits”.

**Action:** Made presentation on current state and local government fiscal issues and potential fiscal issues in light of the new property tax limitation. (Assignment continues).

2. **Client:** Pershing County, Nevada

**Location of Workshops:** Lovelock, Nevada

**Nature of Workshop:** Gave presentation on socio-economic trends in Pershing County. This was part of a two day Pershing County Economic Development Workshop.

**Action:** Made presentation on current and future national, state, and Pershing County socio-economic trends. (Assignment continues).
G. Technical Presentation and Lectures by University Center Staff:

1. **Client:** Western Rural Development Center

   **Location of Workshop:** Reno, Nevada

   **Nature of Workshop:** Advisory Board meeting of the Western Rural Development Center

   **Action:** Gave a presentation on the status of the Community Business Matching Model. (Assignment completed).

2. **Client:** University of Nevada, Reno International Program.

   **Location of Workshop:** Reno, Nevada

   **Nature of Workshop:** Workshop panel that presented ideas of entrepreneurship to Republic of Georgia business leaders visiting the University of Nevada, Reno.

   **Action:** Gave presentation on trends in entrepreneurship nationally and state of Nevada. (Assignment completed).


EXTENSION SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS:

Extension Special Publications

1. Borden, Buddy, R. Grumbles and J. Lopez. “Fiscal Structures and Trends for Colorado River Communities including: Laughlin, NV, Bullhead City, AZ, Fort Mohave, AZ, Mohave Valley, AZ, Golden Valley, AZ, and Needles, CA.” Technical report summarizing historical fiscal trends in the Colorado River Region. This educational bulletin is being used by community leaders as a platform for
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