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 provide statewide and technical assistance in economic development for the third quarter of FY 2003-2004. During the third quarter, the University Center produced ten applied research projects, seven other research projects, nine technical and management assistance projects, four counseling and referrals, and four workshops.

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. George “Buddy” 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. Seven technical reports were prepared for review during the second quarter of fiscal year 2003-2004 by the University Center. Four 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 and 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:**

1. **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:** Telephone health care questionnaire has been completed for Gabbs, Nevada. An analysis of EMS service calls for Battle Mountain has been completed. Also, a feasibility analysis of expansion of the Pershing General Hospital was completed. Additionally, areas for Rural Health Works analysis are being considered. Nevada has continued its efforts in operation Rural Health. Health care sector impact analysis has been completed for the below listed counties. (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:** Rural Policy Research Institute  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Development of county and local government fiscal impact models to derive impacts from alternative federal government policies.

**Action:** Economic and fiscal data for the counties of Nevada have been collected and a publication of fiscal trends is being developed. A county economic-fiscal model has been developed to derive impacts of alternative federal programs of Nevada counties. (Assignment completed.)
4. **Client:** Western Rural Development Center  
**Location of Project:** Western United States  

**Nature of Project:** Requested by Western States Extension Directors to analyze current state government fiscal crises.

**Action:** Joined group of western economic researchers to gather data and develop two western state fact sheets on western state fiscal crises. (Assignment completed.)


5. **Client:** Western Nevada Development District and Northeastern Nevada  
**Location of Project:** Counties within Western Nevada Development District are Carson City, Douglas, Storey, Mineral, Lyon, Pershing, and Churchill. Counties in Northeastern Nevada are Elko, Humboldt, Lander, Eureka, and White Pine.

**Nature of Project:** Completed an industrial targeting study for the Northeastern Nevada counties and the Western Nevada Development District.

**Action:** Socio-economic data is being collected and developed into a publication to estimate economic base of counties and trends for economic growth. Industrial targeting study for both urban and near urban Western Nevada Development District has been completed. Presentations of results to WNDD are being prepared. (Assignment continues.)


6. **Client:** Western Rural Development Center  
**Location of Project:** Western States of the Nation  
**Nature of Project:** Development of a regional industrial targeting and community-business matching program.  
**Action:** Proposal drafted to develop a regional industrial targeting program and community-business matching computer program. (Assignment continues.)

7. **Client:** Nevada Landscape Association  
**Location of Project:** Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Study included developing state economic model for four green industry sectors: plan production, landscape services, plant sales (wholesale and retail), and golf.  
**Action:** Primary operational data was collected through targeted questionnaires. Final analysis had been conducted and report is currently being prepared. Presentation is scheduled for industry annual meeting in November. (Assignment completed.)

8. **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.)

9. **Client:** Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Estimation of location factors for biotechnology firms at the state 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.)

10. **Client:** Lincoln County Government  
**Location of Project:** Lincoln County, Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Strategic Tourism Plan for Lincoln County  
**Action:** Three workshops were held in Caliente, Alamo, and Pioche, Nevada to get public input for future tourism development in Lincoln County. Data and tourist visitation numbers are being collected to add to the strategic plan. Additional workshops to be held to develop short-run and long-run tourism strategies. (Assignment continues.)

> **BUDDY:** Please add your publication and other information, as you like. Also, in workshops you might add your presentation of the Nevada Landscape Impacts.
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/O 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 marketing analysis of the Comstock was completed by MBA students. This marketing study will be incorporated into a strategic tourism planning study in the Comstock Area. (Assignment continues.)

3. **Client:** Bureau of Land Management  
   **Location of Project:** Lyon County and Carson City, Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Public opinion for potential national wild horse and burro adoption center and sanctuary.  
   **Action:** University Center personnel had meetings with state BLM officials pertaining to citizen preference questionnaire and feasibility study of a national wild horse and burro adoption center. (Assignment continues.)

4. **Client:** Nevada Association of Counties  
   **Location of Project:** Rural Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Collect and analyze questionnaire to rural Nevadan’s requesting information as to needs for rural Nevada economic development and desires for creating a Nevada Rural Development Center.  
   **Action:** Questionnaires are being collected and a database is being developed for analysis. (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:** EMS spreadsheet return/cost program is currently being developed. (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.)

7. **Client:** Nevada Association of Counties and Nevada Farm Bureau.  
**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.)

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

1. **Client:** Lander County  
**Location of Project:** Battle Mountain, Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Analysis of local emergency medical systems of Battle Mountain.  

**Action:** Meeting between UCED staff and EMS staff of Battle Mountain on the nature of the local EMS system. An analysis of Battle Mountain EMS runs has been completed and an analysis is being drafted. (Assignment continues.)

2. **Client:** Dean’s Office of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources  
**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.)
3. **Client:** Elko County Economic Development Authority (ECEDA)  
**Location of Project:** Northeastern Nevada Counties of Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, and White Pine  
**Nature of Project:** Assistance in data development for a feasibility study for a northeastern Nevada business incubator.

**Action:** Assisted ECEDA in collection and analysis of specific socio-economic data for northeastern Nevada business incubator study. (Assignment continues.)

4. **Client:** Pershing General Hospital  
**Location of Project:** Lovelock, Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Completed a feasibility study of hospital expansion.

**Action:** Feasibility analysis was completed and presented to the Pershing General Hospital Board. (Assignment completed.)  

5. **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.)

6. **Client:** Sierra Pacific Power Company  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Request to develop an empirical analysis of Nevada counties as regions.

**Action:** Regional analysis study completed and results presented at a workshop. (Assignment completed.)
7. **Client:** Churchill County Convention and Visitor’s Authority  
**Location of Project:** Churchill County, Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Requested information needed to complete an impact analysis to Churchill County of closing of Sand Mountain to tourists.  

**Action:** A questionnaire for Sand Mountain was developed for use during the Labor Day weekend. Questionnaire results are being tabulated and study completed. (Assignment complete.)


8. **Client:** Humboldt County  
**Location of Project:** Winnemucca, Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Request to estimate potential ridership for a commercial airline in Winnemucca.  

**Action:** A questionnaire is being developed to determine potential ridership and fare charges for possible commercial airline in Winnemucca. (Assignment continues.)

9. **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.)

**E. Counseling and Referral:**

1. **Client:** Mineral County Economic Development Authority  
**Location of Project:** Mineral County, Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Request for 2000 Census data for median income for Nevada counties.  

**Action:** Data was collected and sent to Mineral County Economic Development Authority. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** California Consulting Firm  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Requested agricultural budgets for state of Nevada.  

**Action:** Extension farm budgets found and mailed to requesting firm. (Assignment completed.)
3. **Client:** Farm Credit System (FSA) of Nevada  
**Location:** State of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Information request as to farmland value appreciation.  

**Action:** Land value appreciation collected and presented to FSA meeting. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Client:** State of Nevada Demographer  
**Location:** State of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Member of State of Demographer Advisory Committee.  

**Action:** Review population data and projections. (Assignment completed.)

F. **Workshops and Seminars:**

1. **Location of Workshop:** Gabbs, Nevada  
**Nature of Seminar:** Discussion of citizen questionnaire on local health care needs.  

**Action:** Presentation of questionnaire results presented. (Assignment completed.)  


2. **Location of Workshop:** Hawthorne, Nevada  
**Nature of Seminar:** Presented results of a retail sales leakage study for Mineral County.  

**Action:** Results presented to Hawthorne Downtown Business Group. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Location of Workshop:** Carson City, Nevada  
**Nature of Seminar:** Initial presentation of targeting study for Western Nevada Development District.  

**Action:** Presentation made to Western Nevada Development District quarterly meeting. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Location of Workshop:** Alamo, Caliente, and Pioche, Nevada  
**Nature of Seminar:** Discussion of Lincoln County Strategic Plan  

**Action:** Gathered public input as to goals for a strategic plan in Lincoln County. (Assignment completed.)
The technical bulletins published during fiscal year 2003-2004 will be denoted by 2003/04. This provides recognition of work according to fiscal year.


Harris, Thomas R. “White Pine County Retail Sector Leakage Study.” September 2003, UCED 2003/04-06.


