University of Nevada, Reno

University Center for Economic Development

Third Quarter Report
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Prepared by

Thomas R. Harris, Director

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University Center for Economic Development
Department of Resource Economics
Mail Stop 204
Reno, NV 89557-00105
775/784-0105
Fax: 775/327-2225
Email: harris@cabnr.unr.edu
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 third quarter of FY 2006-2007. During the third quarter, the University Center produced seven applied research projects, seven other research projects, twelve technical and management assistance projects, six counseling and referrals, four workshops, and one technical presentation.

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. Eight technical reports and three special extension publications were published during the third 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. 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 and results will be presented to the Nevada Assembly. (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.)


**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.)

7. **Client:** Lander County Commissioners  

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

**Nature of Project:** Requested Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis of growth in Lander County.

**Action:** GIS data being collected and analysis will be run. A University Center Technical Bulletin will be drafted. (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. Acceptances of proposals were notified to the University Center. Studies have been 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 was collected in order to derive economic impacts of Truckee Forest Hospital on the
Truckee Forest Hospital District. A University Center Technical Bulletin was completed and presentation of results will be made in May (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. Results of the study were presented to the Elko County Commissioners. (Assignment completed.)


Vusovic, Slavica and Thomas R. Harris. “Analysis of Impacts of Public Land Grazing on the Elko County Economy and Mountain City Management Area: Fiscal

Harris, Thomas R., Fungisai, and Betsy Fadali, “Analysis of Impacts of Public Land Grazing on the Elko County Economy and Mountain City Management Area: An Economic Description of the Agricultural Sector and Range Livestock Sector in Elko County”, UCED 2006/07-05, October 2006.


5. **Client:** Nye County Commissioners

**Location of Project:** Nye County

**Nature of Project:** Nye County Commissioners requested information as to the potential employment impacts by the closure of the Tonopah Test Site or Complex 2030.

**Action:** Proposal drafted and accepted by Nye County commissioners and a study of potential closure of the Complex 2030 has been initiated. (Assignment continues.)

6. **Client:** Lincoln County Commissioners

**Location of Project:** Lincoln County

**Nature of Project:** Requested information as to potential economic and fiscal impact of growth in Lincoln County.

**Action:** Data is being collected for analysis of potential growth impacts. Assignment continues.)
7. **Client:** Truckee Meadow Community College  

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Information as to occupational demand and supply for physical therapist assistants.

**Action:** Occupation supply and demand data for the State of Nevada, Clark County MSA, Washoe County MSA, and the balance of the State for physical therapist assistants was given to Truckee Meadows Community College. (Assignment completed.)

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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 was collected to derive the economic impacts of High Sierra Industries (HIS) on the Nevada economy. (Assignment completed.)
Harris, Thomas R., Richard Bartholet, and Brian Bonnenfant. “Estimated Economic Impacts of High Sierra Industries (HIS) on the Economy of the State of Nevada”, UCED 2006/07-08, January 2007

8. **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.)

9. **Client**: Douglas County Airport

**Location of Project**: Douglas County

**Nature of Project**: Estimate the economic, employment, and income impacts to the Douglas County economy from expansion of the Douglas County Airport.

**Action**: Economic, employment, and income impacts to the Douglas County economy from the proposed expansion of the Douglas County airport were estimated and a University Center Technical Bulletin published. (Assignment completed.)


10. **Client**: State of Nevada

**Location of Project**: State of Nevada

**Nature of Project**: Analysis and feasibility study of a local livestock processing plant on the state of Nevada.

**Action**: A feasibility study was completed and a University Center Technical Bulletin was published.

11. **Client:** City of Yerington

**Location of Project:** Lyon County

**Nature of Project:** Estimation of the economic impacts of the Agricultural sector on the Lyon county economy.

**Action:** Economic impacts estimated and results made into a University Center Bulletin and sent to the city of Yerington. (Assignment completed.)

Harris, Thomas R. “An Economic Description of the Agricultural Sector in Lyon County”, UCED 2006/07-14, March 2007

12. **Client:** State of Nevada Legislative Council Bureau

**Location of Project:** Pershing County

**Nature of Project:** Requested study of the economic impacts of the Agricultural sector in the Pershing County economy.

**Action:** Economic impacts of the Pershing County Agricultural sector estimated and a University Center Technical Bulletin completed. (Assignment completed.)


E. **Counseling and Referrals:**

1. **Client:** Dean of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources, University of Nevada, Reno

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Economic impacts of the landscape industry on the state of Nevada’s economy.

**Action:** Economic impact estimated and results used in testimony to Nevada Assembly for funding of a University System Horticultural Program. (Assignment completed.)
2. **Client:** Monte Cristo State Park Committee

**Location of Project:** Nye, Mineral, and Esmeralda Counties.

**Nature of Project:** Requested information as to potential tourist expenditure impacts to Esmeralda, Nye, and Mineral Counties from proposed new state of Nevada Park, Monte Cristo.

**Action:** Impacts of potential tourist expenditures from proposed new state park estimated. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Client:** Tahoe Forest Hospital

**Location of Project:** Tahoe Forest Hospital service area

**Nature of Project:** Requested information as to Tahoe Forest Hospital activities on Tahoe Forest hospital Service Area gross product.

**Action:** Estimate of the Tahoe Forest Hospital contribution to the Service Area gross area product estimated and sent to Tahoe Forest Hospital administration. Assignment completed.

4. **Client:** Humboldt and Pershing Counties Sustainable Development Committee

**Location of Project:** Humboldt and Pershing Counties

**Nature of Project:** Provide socio-economic data and trends to Humboldt and Pershing Sustainable Development Committee.

**Action:** Data and analysis provided and attended meeting of the Humboldt and Pershing Sustainable Development committee. (Assignment completed.)

5. **Client:** Incline Village

**Location of Project:** Incline Village

**Nature of Project:** Information as to incorporation of Incline Village as an incorporated city.

**Action:** Information as to city incorporation given to Incline Village. (Assignment completed.)
6. **Client:** State of Nevada parks Department

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Requested information as to procedures to analyze economic impacts of State of Nevada parks.

**Action:** A discussion with State of Nevada Parks administrators held and future areas of research discussed. (Assignment completed.)

F. **Workshops and Seminars:**

1. **Client:** Washoe County Government

**Location of Workshops:** Washoe County

**Nature of Workshop:** Presentation of homeless study results to Washoe County government.

**Action:** A presentation developed and made to Washoe county government. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** State of Nevada

**Location of Workshops:** Reno, Nevada

**Nature of Workshop:** Agri-Tourism workshop.

**Action:** Made presentation on agri-tourism trends and potential impacts of agri-tourism on the rural Nevada economy. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Client:** Elko County Commissioners

**Location of Workshops:** Elko County

**Nature of Workshop:** Presented results of study of economic impacts of public land grazing on the economy of Elko County.

**Action:** Presentation made to Elko County Commissioners and studies accepted by Elko County Commissioners. (Assignment completed.)
4. **Client:** State of Nevada

**Location of Workshops:** Reno, Nevada

**Nature of Workshop:** Presentation on use of Bureau of Economic Analysis Income and Employment data for economic analysis.

**Action:** Workshop presented and web program covering BEA data discussed. (Assignment completed.)

5. **Client:** Nevada Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology

**Location of Workshops:** Reno, Nevada

**Nature of Workshop:** Presentation of activities of university Center in the area of entrepreneurship and College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources on biotechnology research.

**Action:** Presentation made at Tech Thursday’s meeting. (Assignment completed.)

G. **Technical Presentation and Lectures by University Center Staff:**

1. **Client:** Western Regional Science Association

**Location of Presentation:** Newport Beach, California

**Nature of Presentation:** Two papers presented at WRSA meeting.

**Action:** The two papers presented are listed below. (Assignment completed.)

- Davis, Allison Reum and Thomas R. Harris. “The Entrepreneur Push versus Pull: It All Depends on Location”.

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

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 developing and responding to policy issues. Special Publication 06-13 (49 pages).

2. 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).

3. 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