University of Nevada, Reno

University Center for Economic Development

Third 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 in the month of June. Therefore, the quarterly reports after 2006 start with 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 2007-2008. During the third quarter, the University Center produced seven applied research projects, four other research projects, seven technical and management assistance projects, eleven counseling and referrals, four workshops, two technical presentations, five Cooperative Extension fact sheets (four under review), two journal articles under review, and two book chapters have been accepted for publication.

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; Man-Keun Kim, Research Assistant Professor; Elizabeth (Betsy) Fadali, Research Associate; Shannon Price, Research Associate; Sue Strom and Genet Sauer, Administrative Assistants; and George “Buddy” W. Borden, Community Development Specialist, who 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:

The 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. Six technical reports were published and one Cooperative Extension fact sheet, four Cooperative Extension fact sheets and two journal articles were under review, and two book chapters were accepted for publication during the third quarter, fiscal year 2007/2008 by the University Center. Four workshops were offered by the University Center to present economic data and results of a past project.

The Center currently maintains a web page. The address is http://www.ag.unr.edu/uced. From this web page, a person is 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. 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:


Location of Project: Colorado River Regional Economy.

Nature of Project: An economic adjustment grant from EDA to assist the regional economy to develop a regional economic development strategy to mitigate the loss of jobs at the Mohave Generating Station.

Action: Community Business Matching (CBM) Model methodology was used for this program. This involves a regional process that includes a regional advisory committee. To date, program activities are as follows:

- The 25 member Regional Advisory Committee has met eight times.
- The Regional Advisory Committee participated in introductory training session on CBM methodology.
- The Regional Advisory Committee assisted the University Center administer goal/priority surveys to over 75 resident groups.
- The Regional Advisory Committee assisted the University Center in collecting regional asset and infrastructure inventory data.
- University Center staff developed a computer generated model to input local data.
• Results have been generated and will be shared with the community during the next quarter.
• Completed report and report findings presented to communities of Bullhead City, Arizona and Laughlin, Nevada.

Completed report sent to Seattle office of the U.S. Economic Development Administration (assignment completed):


2. 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. Economic impacts of the biotechnology firms in Nevada are also being estimated.

Action: Detailed econometric models have been developed to estimate the factors of location for biotechnology firms. 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. (Assignment continues.)

3. 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, 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 the healthcare sector in Elko County and Boulder City, Nevada were calculated. Also, two feasibility studies were completed. (Assignment continues.) Publications developed are:


5. **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 is being collected and an analysis will be run. A proposal has been developed for a housing analysis of Lander County. (Assignment continues.)

6. **Client:** White Pine County Commissioners.

**Location of Project:** White Pine County, Nevada.

**Nature of Project:** Request to analyze potential economic clusters and housing shortage in White Pine County.

**Action:** Grant developed and accepted by White Pine County Commissioners. Socio-economic, housing, and Geographic Information System (GIS) are currently being collected for analysis. (Assignment continues.)

C. **Other Research Projects**

1. **Client:** Walker River Basin.

**Location of Project:** Walker River Basin.

**Nature of Project:** Estimation of the 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. The University Center was notified of acceptance of the proposals. Studies have been initiated. (Assignment continues.)

2. **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: Impacts of the Tonopah Test Range were estimated and a final report completed. (Assignment completed.)


3. Client: Elko County Commissioners.

Location of Project: Elko County.

Nature of Project: A draft proposal was developed for acceptance by Elko County Commissioners. A University Center publication was developed and sent to the Elko County Commissioners on the economic impacts of the hard rock mining sector on the economy of the Elko Micropolitan Study Area. (Assignment continues.)


Location of Project: Lincoln County and White Pine County.

Nature of Project: Requested analysis of county economic impacts of local agricultural sector.

Action: Completed analysis and drafted two publications (assignment completed):


D. Technical and Management Assistance Projects:


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: 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 its seventeen counties.
Action: In-commuters and out-commuters data is being collected at the state and county level. Two University of Nevada Cooperative Extension publications are being developed. (Assignment continues.)

Location of Project: State of Nevada.
Nature of Project: Completed data analysis and developed draft on the economic impacts of NxLevel entrepreneurs on the Nevada economy.
Action: Impact analysis completed and information used in an initial draft of impacts of NxLevel entrepreneurs on the Nevada economy. (Assignment continues.)

4. Client: Lyon County Commissioners.
Location of Project: Lyon County.
Nature of Project: Requested information and a workshop on economic and fiscal trends in Lyon County.
Action: Data is being collected and a workshop being planned. (Assignment continues.)

Location of Project: Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation.
Nature of Project: Requested assistance in helping Pyramid Lake Tribe with Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and economic impact study of Native American Tribe Reservations in Nevada.
Action: Sent proposal of assistance in developing CEDS and proposal on estimating economic impacts of Native American Reservations on the Nevada economy. (Assignment continues.)

6. Client: Lincoln County Commissioners.
Location of Project: Lincoln County, Nevada.
Nature of Project: Requested information and workshop on current and future economic and fiscal trends in Lincoln County.
Action: Data collected and workshop presented in Lincoln County. (Assignment continues.)

Location of Project: Northeastern Nevada.
**Action:** Feasibility study completed and University Center Technical Bulletin completed (assignment completed):


**E. Counseling and Referrals:**

1. **Client:** Nevada Tahoe Conservation District.
   **Location of Project:** Tahoe area.
   **Nature of Project:** Requested assistance in developing biomass removal proposal.
   **Action:** Assisted in proposal draft sent to the U.S. Forest Service. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA).
   **Location of Project:** Las Vegas, Nevada.
   **Nature of Project:** Requested University of Nevada Cooperative Extension agricultural budgets.
   **Action:** Agricultural budgets sent to SNWA. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Client:** University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) School of Nursing.
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada.
   **Nature of Project:** Requested information on taverns in Nevada and number of bankruptcies since Clean Air Act.
   **Action:** Data source found and mailed to UNLV School of Nursing. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Client:** State of Nevada Public Utility Commission.
   **Location of Project:** Washoe County, Nevada.
   **Nature of Project:** Requested household income values by zip code for Washoe County, Nevada.
   **Action:** Zip code data collected and sent to State of Nevada PUC. (Assignment completed.)

5. **Client:** State of Nevada Manufacturing Assistance Program.
   **Location of Project:** Rural Nevada.
   **Nature of Project:** Requested assistance in developing a proposal for the Department of Energy concerning alternative energy sources in rural Nevada.
**Action:** Assistance in proposal made and proposal submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. (Assignment completed.)

6. **Client:** Beaverhead County, Montana.
   **Location of Project:** Beaverhead County, Montana.
   **Nature of Project:** Requested assistance in assessing potential economic linkages to a beef processing plant.
   **Action:** Economic linkages and memorandum sent to Beaverhead County, Montana. (Assignment completed.)

7. **Client:** Truckee River Flood Project.
   **Location of Project:** Washoe and Storey Counties.
   **Nature of Project:** Requested assistance in validating economic data supplied by IMPLAN.
   **Action:** Data validated and memorandum sent to Truckee River Flood Project. (Assignment completed.)

8. **Client:** University of Arizona Cooperative Extension.
   **Location of Project:** Tucson, Arizona.
   **Nature of Project:** Presentation on the University Center Program sponsored by the U.S. Economic Development Administration.
   **Action:** Presentation made in Tucson, Arizona. (Assignment completed.)

9. **Client:** Yomba Shoshone Tribe.
    **Location of Project:** Yomba, Nevada.
    **Nature of Project:** Requested assistance in business computer programs.
    **Action:** Working with School of Business and University of Nevada, Reno developing intern (Tom, not sure if this was intern or interim) assistance for Yomba Shoshone Tribe. (Assignment completed.)

10. **Client:** Nevada Off-Highway Vehicle Association.
    **Location of Project:** State of Nevada.
    **Nature of Project:** Estimate lost retail sales of off-highway vehicles to border counties.
    **Action:** Proposal drafted and being reviewed. (Assignment completed.)

11. **Client:** Predium Consulting.
    **Location of Project:** Dallas, Texas.
    **Nature of Project:** Requested socio-economic data of Washoe County.
Action: Socio-economic data collected and sent. (Assignment completed.)

F. Workshops and Seminars:

1. **Client:** Lincoln County Commissioners.
   **Location of Workshop:** Pioche, Nevada.
   **Nature of Workshop:** Fiscal impacts of potential residential development.
   **Action:** Workshop on potential fiscal impacts of residential development presented to Commissioners. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** Lyon County Commissioners.
   **Location of Workshop:** Yerington, Nevada.
   **Nature of Workshop:** Workshop on fiscal system in Nevada.
   **Action:** Workshop on fiscal system of Nevada and impacts to Lyon County government fiscal balances completed. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Client:** Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona.
   **Location of Workshop:** Bullhead City, Arizona.
   **Nature of Workshop:** Presentation of results of Community Business Matching Model.
   **Action:** A presentation of results and University Center publication given to attendees. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Client:** Nye County Commissioners.
   **Location of Workshop:** Tonopah, Nevada.
   **Nature of Workshop:** Presentation of results of Tonopah Test Range analysis.
   **Action:** Presentation made to Nye County Commissioners and University Center publication give to Commissioners. (Assignment completed.)

G. Technical Presentations and Lectures by University Center Staff

1. **Client:** Southern Agricultural Economics Association.
   **Location of Presentation:** Dallas, Texas.
   **Nature of Presentation:** Presented selected paper.
   **Action:** Paper presented listed below (assignment completed):
2. **Client:** Southern Regional Science Association.

**Location of Presentation:** Washington D. C.

**Nature of Presentation:** Presented selected paper.

**Action:** Paper presented listed below (assignment completed):

Kim, Man-Keun and Thomas R. Harris. “An Efficiency Analysis of Nevada and Utah Counties: Region Size Leads to Region Efficiency.”

**H. Journal Articles and Fact Sheets**


Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris, and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Lyon County: Implications for Lyon County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet under review.


I. **Book Chapters**


Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris, and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Lyon County: Implications for Lyon County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet under review.

