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 fourth quarter of FY 2002-2003. During the fourth quarter, the University Center produced seven applied research projects, nine other research projects, nine technical and management assistance projects, eight counseling and referrals, four workshops, one technical meetings and one refereed 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; Tim Darden, Research Associate; Jake Burkey, Research Associate; William O. Champney, 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. Six technical reports were prepared for review during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2002-2003 by the University Center. Four workshops and one technical presentation were developed 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 2002 are currently online in Adobe pdf format.

B. Applied Research:

1. 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 is being developed to derive impacts of alternative federal programs of Nevada counties. (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. The objective of the project is to assess the economic impacts of the rural health sector on rural economies.

Action: Telephone survey results have been compiled into publications for the Nevada counties of Lander, Pershing, and South Lyon. In addition, a focus group-based analysis of potential demand of OB/GYN services and a mail survey of satisfaction with existing OB/GYN services
in White Pine County are being implemented, and a health care survey for the community of Gabbs is being developed. (Assignment continues.)

3. **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.)

4. **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:** Complete 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 Rural Western Nevada Development District has been completed. Work is underway in development of an Urban Western Development District industrial targeting publication. (Assignment continues.)


5. **Client:** Churchill County Communications  
**Location of Project:** Churchill County

**Nature of Project:** Estimation of economic impacts of Churchill County Communications on the Churchill County economy.

**Action:** An analysis of the economic impacts of Churchill County Communications’ business and employees has been completed. Results were sent to CC Communications. (Assignment completed.)
6. Client: Central Nevada  
**Location of Project:** Central Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Assisted student in obtaining grant to investigate opportunities of organic farming and community supported agriculture in Central Nevada.

**Action:** A proposal was drafted and approved by the Vice President of Academic Affairs. Initial data collection has been initiated in hopes that the grant will be funded.

7. 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.)

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:** A regional advisory committee has been assembled representing both communities. This committee will meet monthly to discuss study progress and strategize ways to educate the general community (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:** Workshops were held in Dayton, Virginia City Highlands, Moundhouse, and Virginia City to obtain preferences for tourism development in the Comstock Area. Results of the workshops are being compiled into a University Center publication. The University Center will continue to offer its assistance to the Comstock Tourism Group in development of a strategic tourism plan. (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:** Analysis of EMS employee and volunteer questionnaire.  

**Action:** EMS survey data have been completed into an SPSS database and preliminary analysis has been reported. (Assignment continues.)

6. **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.)

7. **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.)
8. Client: Carson City Government  
Location of Project: Carson City, Nevada  

Nature of Project: Request to estimate potential retail sales and sales tax impacts of closing of Wal-Mart and K-Mart. Also completing analysis of Carson City citizen survey as to spending patterns for retail and service goods.

Action: Data collection and analysis initiated for retail sales and sales tax losses. Analysis of Carson City consumer questionnaire continues. (Assignment continues.)

Location of Project: Northern Nevada  

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

Action: Initiated discussions and grant proposal for 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. Collection of EMS calls is currently underway. (Assignment continues.)

2. Client: Reno/Sparks Indian Colony  
Location of Project: Reno/Sparks, Nevada  

Nature of Project: Estimation of health needs by Reno/Sparks Tribe.

Action: Meeting with health director of Reno/Sparks Indian Colony to discuss development of a questionnaire. (Assignment continues.)
3. Client: Western Nevada Community College  
Location of Project: Carson City, Nevada

Nature of Project: Feasibility analysis of potential intercollegiate sports at Western Nevada Community College has been reviewed and a final draft is being typed.

Action: A final feasibility study has been drafted and was sent to administrators at Western Nevada Community College. (Assignment completed.)


4. Client: GiliEdge Enterprises – Henri Vos  
Location of Project: Elko County, Nevada

Nature of Project: Requested assistance with Casino Express Analysis done previously and technical assistance with his analysis of the total economic impact of the airport in Elko.

Action: Contacted Red Lion for release of figures and had a call with Mr. Vos to discuss the figures and his methodology. (Assignment completed.)

5. 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.)

6. Client: Nye County Government  
Location of Project: Nye County

Nature of Project: Analysis of elderly transportation system.

Action: An EXCEL return/cost spreadsheet for analysis of a rural elderly transportation system is being developed. (Assignment completed.)
7. **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 developing feasibility grant for hub-satellite business incubator.

**Action:** Assisted ECEDA in development of feasibility grant. (Assignment continues.)

8. **Client:** Pershing County General Hospital  
**Location of Project:** Lovelock, Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Preliminary feasibility study of hospital expansion.

**Action:** Feasibility analysis has been initiated to become proto-type EXCEL spreadsheet return/cost program. (Assignment continues.)

9. **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:** Meeting with offices of Elko Chamber of Commerce and strategic planning session discussed. (Assignment continues.)

E. **Counseling and Referral:**

1. **Client:** State Small Business Development Center  
**Location of Project:** Reno, Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Requested information on Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT).

**Action:** Sent SBDC the University Center technical bulletin on history of PILT payments in Nevada and counties. The publication sent is listed below. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** University of Nevada Foundation  
**Location of Project:** University of Nevada, Reno

**Nature of Project:** Requested copy of University center Technical Bulletin that estimated economic impacts of the University of Nevada on the Nevada economy.

**Action:** Sent copy of University Center technical Bulletin to the University of Nevada Foundation. The publication sent is listed below. (Assignment completed.)


3. **Client:** Humboldt County Commissioners  
**Location:** Humboldt County

**Nature of Project:** Request of analysis and trends in government sector salaries.

**Action:** Analysis of government sector employment and wage trends was sent to Humboldt County. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Client:** State of Nevada Legislature Counsel Bureau  
**Location:** Nevada and Rural United States

**Nature of Project:** Reply to request of studies of impacts of giant retail box stores on rural economies.

**Action:** Sent list of studies to State of Nevada Legislature Counsel Bureau. (Assignment completed.)

5. **Client:** Drexell University  
**Location:** Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Nature of Project:** Request for publication on economic diversification analysis.

**Action:** Paper sent to Drexell University. Publication is listed below. (Assignment completed.)

6. **Client:** Engineering Firm in Sacramento  
**Location:** Reno, Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Requested history of housing prices in Reno, Nevada.  

**Action:** Referred person to Bureau of Business and Economic Research. (Assignment completed.)

7. **Client:** State of Nevada Legislative Council Bureau  
**Location:** Churchill County  

**Nature of Project:** Request copy of Frontier Treatment Center feasibility report.  

**Action:** Feasibility report sent to Legislative Council Bureau. (Assignment completed.)

8. **Client:** Engineering Firm in Reno, Nevada  
**Location:** Washoe County, Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Requested census tract 2000 census data.  

**Action:** Referred person to State of Nevada Demographer’s Office. (Assignment completed.)

F. **Workshops and Seminars:**

1. **Location of Workshop:** University of Nevada, Reno  
**Nature of Seminar:** Presentation for University of Nevada, Reno International Program for eight Afghanistan women on economic/business development principles.  

**Action:** Presentation made to eight Afghanistan women want to develop a Women’s Small Business Development Center. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Location of Workshop:** Mineral County  
**Nature of Seminar:** Economic development visioning program.  

**Action:** Economic development visioning program completed and results sent to Mineral County Economic Development Authority. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Location of Workshop:** Gabbs, Nevada  
**Nature of Seminar:** Discussion of health care sector analysis for Gabbs, Nevada.  

**Action:** Health care analysis program presented to Gabbs Health Care Group. (Assignment completed.)
4. **Location of Workshop:** Mineral County  
**Nature of Seminar:** Economic development visioning program with students of Mineral County High School.

**Action:** Economic development visionary program with students of Mineral County High School completed. (Assignment completed.)

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

1. **Location of Conference:** Winnemucca, Nevada and telecast to Elko, Eureka, Lander, and White Pine Counties.  
**Nature of Conference:** What is a business incubator and to complete a feasibility analysis of a hub-satellite business incubator.

**Action:** Presentation and telecast from Winnemucca, Nevada and telecast to four northeastern Nevada counties. (Assignment completed.)

H. **Journal Articles and Fact Sheets**

1. **Published Journal Articles:**


2. **Fact Sheets:**
The technical bulletins published during fiscal year 2002-2003 will be denoted by 2002/03. This provides recognition of work according to fiscal year.


