Summary: In April 2000, the University Center for Economic Development at the University of Nevada, Reno, 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 2003-2004. During the fourth quarter, the University Center produced seven applied research projects, seven other research projects, eight technical and management assistance projects, eleven counseling and referrals, and eight 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. Nineteen technical reports were prepared for review during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2003-2004 by the University Center. Eight 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:** Analysis of alternative methods of teaching emergency medical service classes is currently underway. Results have been tabulated and a University Center Technical Bulletin is being drafted. Also, county impacts from local health care sector are being calculated and bulletins drafted. (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:** 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:** Presentation of industrial targeting results was presented to Economic Development Subcommittee of the Western Nevada Development District. (Assignment completed.)

4. **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.)
5. **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.)

6. **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.)

7. **Client:** Lincoln County Government  
**Location of Project:** Lincoln County, Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Strategic Tourism Plan for Lincoln County  

**Action:** Three workshops on tourism strategic plan in Lincoln County were held in Alamo, Caliente, and Pioche. Notes of workshops were developed and mailed to Lincoln County Strategic Tourism Committee. Data collection from motels and restaurants are underway. (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:** 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 Council.

**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:** 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.)

2. **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.)

3. **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.)

4. **Client:** Wells, Nevada  
   **Location of Project:** Wells, Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** A feasibility analysis of potential tire reuse facility.  
   **Action:** Feasibility analysis is underway. (Assignment continues.)

5. **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.)
6. 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.)

7. Client: Lander County Commissioners  
Location of Project: Lander County


Action: Socio-economic data is being collected and analyzed for the Lander County CEDS Committee. (Assignment continues.)

8. Client: Northeastern Nevada Business Incubator Committee  
Location of Project: Elko, Humboldt, and White Pine Counties in Nevada


Action: University Center Technical Publications present analysis of Elko, Humboldt, and White Pine Counties data. (Assignment continues.)


Wright, Joan, Thomas Harris, Buddy Borden, and Jim Lopez. “Socioeconomic Profile for City of Elko Study Area and the Rest of Elko County Study Area.” UCED 2003/04-35.


E. Counseling and Referral:

1. **Client:** State of Nevada Demographer  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Reviewed revised population estimates for the state of Nevada and seventeen Nevada counties.  
**Action:** Review data and revised population estimates. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** State of Nevada Rural Development Council  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Quarterly meetings of Nevada Rural Development Council.  
**Action:** Attended and participated in Nevada rural Development Council quarterly meetings. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Client:** New Mexico State University  
**Location:** State of New Mexico  
**Nature of Project:** Request for information and University Center Technical Bulletin on industrial targeting.  
**Action:** Publications collected and sent to New Mexico State University. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Client:** Albertson College of Idaho  
**Location:** Economic Area of Albertson College  
**Nature of Project:** Requested assistance and University Center Technical Bulletin outlining procedures to estimate economic impacts of a university or college on the local economy.  
**Action:** Review population data and projections. (Assignment completed.)
5. **Client:** Carson City/Storey County Cooperative Extension Office  
**Location:** Carson City/Storey County area of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Request of economic impacts of youth expenditures in Carson City/Storey County.  

**Action:** A memorandum was developed that estimated the economic impacts of youth expenditures of the Carson City/Storey County economy. (Assignment completed.)

6. **Client:** Carson City/Storey County Cooperative Extension Office  
**Location:** Carson City/Storey County area of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Request on allocation of property taxes.  

**Action:** A memorandum was prepared that shows the allocation procedures of county property taxes in Nevada. (Assignment completed.)

7. **Client:** U.S. Congressman Jim Gibbon’s Office  
**Location:** State of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Request of for the employment impacts of the Nevada mining industry on five northeastern Nevada counties.  

**Action:** Employment impacts estimated and memorandum developed and sent to U.S. Congressman Jim Gibbon’s office. (Assignment completed.)

8. **Client:** California Firm  
**Location:** Humboldt, Lander, and Pershing Counties  

**Nature of Project:** Request of county agricultural employment.  

**Action:** County agricultural employment collected and sent to firm. (Assignment completed.)

9. **Client:** Washoe County Government  
**Location:** Washoe County, Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Request for GDP price deflator and meaning of deflator.  

**Action:** GDP price deflators collected and a memorandum developed to discuss use of deflators. (Assignment completed.)

10. **Client:** Elko County Government  
**Location:** Elko County, Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Collected and analyzed taxable sales for groceries for Elko County for a five-year time period.  

**Action:** A memorandum was developed that discusses trends in taxable sales by the Grocery Sector in Elko County. (Assignment completed.)
11. **Client:** Nevada Small Business Development Center  
**Location:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Request for number of horses in the state of Nevada and horse stable costs.  

**Action:** Horse number data collected and a horse stable cost budget given to the Nevada Small Business Development Center. (Assignment completed.)

**F. Workshops and Seminars:**

1. **Location of Workshop:** Las Vegas, Nevada  
**Nature of Seminar:** Week long education program on tools for economic development analysis and strategies for Western State Extension Personnel.  

**Action:** Present two modules of this workshop on analysis of socio-economic data and community-business matching model. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Location of Workshop:** Lincoln County, Nevada  
**Nature of Seminar:** Workshop on obtaining information for development of a strategic tourism plan for Lincoln County.  

**Action:** Workshops held in Pioche, Caliente, and Alamo, Nevada. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Location of Workshop:** Stockton, California  
**Nature of Seminar:** Participated in the Regional Economic Development and Training Session in Stockton, California.  

**Action:** Participated in session of Economic Development and Training Workshop. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Location of Workshop:** Las Vegas, Nevada  
**Nature of Seminar:** Participated in a Southern Nevada Water Authority meeting on potential impacts on southern Nevada from potential population growth constraints.  

**Action:** Participated in session discussing potential impacts of growth limitations caused by water constrictions on the southern Nevada economy. (Assignment completed.)

5. **Location of Workshop:** Reno, Nevada  
**Nature of Seminar:** Workshop covering farm/ranch recreation opportunities.  

**Action:** A day long farm/ranch recreation workshop presented. (Assignment completed.)

6. **Location of Workshop:** New Orleans, Louisiana  
**Nature of Seminar:** Participated in Southern Regional Science Association meeting.  

**Action:** Presented one paper on “Trends in State Government Budgets in Western United States” and chaired two paper sessions. (Assignment completed.)
7. **Location of Workshop:** Battle Mountain, Nevada  
**Nature of Seminar:** Analysis of socio-economic data and impacts of public lands by the Bureau of Land Management.  

**Action:** Attended BLM workshop and made presentation on use of input-output model for analysis of alternative public lands management scenarios. (Assignment completed.)

8. **Location of Workshop:** Imlay, Nevada  
**Nature of Seminar:** Discussion of steps to develop a local strategic economic development plan.  

**Action:** Made presentation on steps to develop local strategic economic development plan to Imlay Town Board. (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.


Wright, Joan and Thomas R. Harris. “Socioeconomic Profile for the Battle Mountain and Austin Study Areas.” March 2004, UCED 2003/04-34.

Wright, Joan, Thomas Harris, Buddy Borden, and Jim Lopez. “Socioeconomic Profile for City of Elko Study Area and the Rest of Elko County Study Area.” UCED 2003/04-35.

